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Lectures on the Institutes of Physic

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1767-8.

"Physic, & Physic's Law lay hid in Night

"God said – let Cullen be, & all was Light.

2.c

Sarco-

Wooden leg

Benjamin Rush

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1767.
Nov: 16th: Dr Cullen's Institutions of Physic.

The Institutions of Physic do not consist in mere theoretical speculations. They are designed to illustrate & set forth the Rules of practising Physic. in order to do this a Physician Ought be well acquainted w: the State of the Body in Health, and all its Deviations from it in Diseases. he Ought also know how the various powers of Nature affect the Body so as to induce Disease w: is y Study of Remote Causes. the Business y: of the Institutions of Physic is to deliver y: general Doctrines or principles of Medicine. we shall then 1st treat of the Doctrines of Health w: is called Physiology 2nd of the Doctrine of Diseases w: is called Pathology & 3d of the Operation of Medicines in curing these Diseases w: is called Therapeutics, or the Methodus Medendi.

In the Physiology. I shall Often take Occasion to point out the Pathology

Introduction.

or Diseases to which the part we have treated off is subject. by this means we shall better understand the Nature & Functions of ye different parts of the human Body in Health.

We shall divide our Physiology into 2 parts. 1st as it treats of the Functions peculiar to both sexes or the whole human species. & 2nd: as it treats of those Functions which are peculiar to each of the sexes.

Lect. 2nd

we shall begin by first explaining the Nervous System, as the Brain & Nerves are primary Agents in all ye Functions of the Body. even the Action of the Heart & Circulation of the Blood depend upon an Influence of the nervous powers. After this we shall proceed to the Distribution of the Fluids or to the Circulation of ye Blood.

Introduction.

I shall call this the Hydraulic part of our System as the Blood in its Circulation is subject to ye common Laws of Hydraulicks. we shall then explain in w^h Manner ye Fluids are constantly renewed. this will constitutes the 3:^d part of the Physiology which we shall call the Chemical part of our System. this you may readily see includes those Functions w^h are called Vital & natural. After this we shall subjoine an Account of the Functions y: are peculiar to each of the Sexes.

Before I enter upon the discussion of ye Nervous System I shall say a few things concerning the nature of a simple Fibre or simple Solids. I shale divide this particular Head (a) of their different Forms

of the simple solids.

(b) of the more general Functions of ye simple Solids (c) I shall consider the different (c) states of Solids wch affect them.

(d) of the Pathology of the simple Solids

(a) of the different Forms of the Solids you all know from Anatomy y^t it is a Cellular Texture. you will find it in Haller very fully discussed. we never find even two Fibres applied together wth out the Interposition of cellular Substance. Some Anatomists suppose the whole Body to be cellular more loosely or closely compacted together. the membranes are nothing but a close compact cellular Substance. the Bones themselves were originally Membranous therefore we may presume they are likewise cellular. does this apply to ye Nails - Horns - Hoofs &c of Animals?

1a.) we infer this from the simple & distinct Sensations wch are communicated by every single Nerve to the Brain.

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— this I think very doubtful. but it does not relate to our present purpose. even supposing parts of the body to be fibrous it does not affect ~~its~~ their texture in the least. when we come to examin them we shall find them both the same. see Dr Haller de Fibra et Pela Cellulosa in the Beginning of his Prima Linia. we allow the Existence of Fibres in the muscles and Tendons, but they are always distinct from the Cellular substance. — even the medul.y part of the brain appears to be arranged in a fibrous manner, and when we consider the nerves are conti.d from the medulla we may presume the nerves also have a fibrous arrangment. Especially whenwe add to this, that the nerves & medulla are the Embrio parts of the body & these we are sure are fibrous. the Application of this will appear more fully

of the simple Solids.

hereafter when we are showing how Lax every part of the Body is derived from the nerves. I cannot help thinking y: the Fibrous Structure is the most Original, and y: the Cellular Substance arises from it.

Lect: III.

I mention this because a late ingenious French writer One Mr Bourdeaux, who has wrote on the cellular Texture of Animals in w: he tells us he has demonstrated Fibres in w: has been supposed to be cellular. he Observes that these Fibres are found in all Animals. hence the powers wch produce them are always uniform & the same. all Changes in the Solids then are in y Cellular Texture, & not in the simple Fibres. this Hypothesis is ingenious, but cannot be supported. his Notions of Fibres are taken only from Muscles, & his Observations

Mr Menzies

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were made w: the Microscopes w: we know are very fallacious. a later Author (a) has maintained the same Opinion, but I think w: the less surprise than Mr De Bourdeaux. we must consider muscles not as simple Fibres but as Organized Bodies as we shall show hereafter.

(b) The Functions of the Solids. Solidity was necessary to give Firmness to the Body w: is always exposed to Injuries & Accidents, as also to serve as Agents in promoting the Circulation of the Fluids. — it was necessary the Solids sh: have a certain Degree of Cohesion — Flexibility & Elasticity which we observe in them. all the Solids in our Body are possessed of one of these three properties or of all of them as was necessary for their

(a) or that they were Heterogeneous Aggregates. in the same manner as ~~Limes~~ Mortar which is Sand cemented together by Lime. —

of the simple Solids.

Functions.

1c) the different states w.ch affect the Cohesion Flexibility & Elasticity of the Solids.

1.st This Cohesion depends upon their nature as Mixt Bodies. 2.d it is upon y.e Difference of matter w.ch constitute the Solids, united more or less compactly according to the matter of which they are composed.

Dr Boerhaave supposed y.t all the Solids are composed of Earth & Gluten. (a)

But this they infer from Calcinations & from a Gluten w.ch is extracted from Bones by Papin's Digester.

to the 1.st viz Calcination we Object all that can be said Ag.st Chemical Analysis in general. thus if a Bread Pudding be analysed, it will by no means yield those principles of which

(a) The Fire in Chemical Operations induces a new Aggregation in Bodies & does not teach us w: principles preexisted in the Mass.

(b) wn this Salts is a Compound of Air & Salt. this kind of Doctrine arises from the Old Corpuscularian System.

(c) Air w: is the most essential Fluid Body in Nature when united w: certain Bodies form y most solid Concretes.

of the Simple Solids

it is composed, such as Flower-water Eggs &c. a new Arrangement is given to the matter, & new Compounds are formed. (a)

— the Earth in the Solids is the Basis of the Gluten, & can be extracted from it. it is unphilosophical to seek for the Cause of Solidity, as it does not arise from any one Elementary Body but from a Conjunction of a considerable Number of them. thus Vegitables are resolved into ye same Earth, (b) but can it be the Cause of their Solidity? — no. the Solidity then of all Bodies depends upon a certain Arrangement wch is altered by Fire (c) the same principles when differently arranged would perhaps form a soft Body.

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as to the 2nd Argument, it proves nothing
the Gluten arises from a Decomposition
& did not preexist in the Body.

~~I do the Particles of the solids the~~
~~fluids~~ Having rejected the Hypothesis of
Dr. Boerhaave I now add y: Altho' we find
Heterogeneous Masses in Nature, yet we
have proofs y the Animal Solids are
composed of Homogeneous Aggregates.
— They were originally in a fluid Form, and
by the dissipation of Moisture become solid.
— Thus a Spiders web by being drawn out
becomes solid altho it lay in y Spiderine fluid
form. Besides the Animal Solids are perfectly
transparent w: shows their Simplicity.
— I will not deny but they are
Compounds for Nulla in Nature has

Of the Simple Solids.

presented us w: Nothing in a simple form — the Chemists indeed tell us of Air — fact — Sulphur be entering into the Composition of all Bodies, but this Notion is now exploded.

This Compound may differ in the proportion of its parts, or from the Insinuations of foreign Matter, on this the different states of Cohesion Flexibility & Elasticity in the Animal Solids may depend. But when these Variations of proportion take place or when foreign matter is insinuated is difficult to tell. we can hint at one or two Cases only, in the Lungs wherein Degree of Putrefaction takes place a late ingenious Author has shown us that it is occasioned by a Defect or Abstraction of Air which is one of the ~~principals~~ con-

of the simple solids.

= stituent parts of the animal solids.

2nd: in many Diseases as in Cancers when some foreign Matter is introduced which changes the state of Cohesion.

3d: Water when introduced may alter the Aggregation of our Solids, so that a greater or lesser proportion of this fluid may change y state of Cohesion in the Animal Solids.

— ~~tooth~~ all Nutritious Matter is applied in a watery form, now if this is sent in too great a proportion or if it has not been properly Abstracted, or if after being Abstracted it is again effused it follows of Consequence we shall have a Change in the Nature of the Solids.

If Again this Fluid is sent in too small a proportion. or if too much is Ab: = stracted or dissipated then a Difference of

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Aggregation will likewise follow. the direct Converse of the former viz: y: Solids will become more coherent - less flexible, & more ~~lik~~ liable to Diseases. — I shall here only of the Soft Solids. I shall have occasion to say hereafter that the Bones are composed of Heterogeneous parts.

Dr Bryan Robinson by his Experiments on Animal Fibres found y: all Liquids tends to elongate them. But he never found any thing that contracted a Fibre thus re= =laxed or elongated. see his Tables in his Treatise on the Anim: Oeconomy.

From w: he has said I w: infer that no Liquid relaxes ~~less~~ more than hot water except Spr: vitriol w: acts rather as a Solvent than Relaxer.

a Solution of common salt relaxes

(4) hence he tells us y^t Oils relaxed very little. nor we all know y^t Oils relax most of any fluids when applied to the skin.

(5) For he never distinguished between y^e Diffrent kinds of spirits he used: nor does he seem to understand y^e nature or Diffrence between the two various kinds of Alkaline salts.

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the least of any Liquids the Reason of w: is ow=
=ing to the Salts prevent the free Passage of the
water into the Animal Solids, and this is the
Case w: the all the Impregnations of water. I
would not have you however trust too much
to these Experiments for; he used Human
Hairs as his Animal Solids; now they are
so close & compact in their Organization
as not to admit the Insinuation of fluid
Bodies so readily as other parts of Animal
Matter. (a) 2nd. he is very inaccurate in his
Chemistry & loose in his Chemical Reaso=
=nings. (b) He tells us y: Vinegar relax=
=es less than water, but very Anatomist
will tell you y: Vinegar softens the
Bones more than any Liquid in Nature.
— I wish some of you Gentlemen w:d
repeat these Experiments w: more accuracy.

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of the Animal Solids.

Dr Hales in his Hæmistatics gives us several Experiments y^t lead to some general good Conclusions on this Subject, Altho his manner of conducting them dont seem to be Altogether proper.

We return now to consider the Animal Solids wch we supposed composed of Water & other Matters. its strength or Solidity depends upon the proportion of this Matter to the Water. we shall enquire in to the remote Causes wch give these different proportions of fluid & solid matter. They will depend 1st upon the Quantity & Quality of Nourishment taken in, and ye Condition of its Application. (too much Nourishment introduced tends to increase the proportion of Water especially if no Exercise is used to dissipate ye superfluous

as the more nutritious Aliment is the larger & stronger Fibre it gives, & vice versa. Water when combined wth Nutri-ment tends to make it go further, as those who rear Calves suddenly can witness, from whence we see ye necessity of nourishment being applied in a fluid form.

moisture. if Exercise is used it will tend to enlarge the Solids & in grown subjects to harden them. Too little nourishment gives a small & rigid Fibre. 4th wth Regard to the Quality they act according to the proportion of nutritious matter they contain (a) [Cohesion & Flexibility is different in different constitutions — ages, sexes, — & Temperaments.

The Elasticity of the Solids depends not only upon ye proportions of the constituent parts, but upon their Arrangement likewise.]

The Growth of the Body will depend upon ye state of the Evacuations. too great Exhalation or Perspiration prevents nourishment (tho' taken in over ample Quantity) from being applied to the Nutrition of the Body. 2nd it will depend upon the State of ye Assimilating powers.

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Therefore neither Quality nor Quantity can give Nourishment Unless they are suited to those Powers. 3.rd It will depend upon the Powers which apply it such as Exercise – the Temperature of y.e Air & Other Circumstances not understood such as perhaps Pressure. as Exercise tends to harden the Solids, hence hard Labour in early Life tends to limit the Growth of the Body. Heat by encreasing the Motion of the Nutritious Fluid, ~~and~~ thus encreases the Quantity applied – hence people arrive sooner at their Acme in warm Climates y.n in cold. Dry ness encreases the Effects of Heat & Cold – Moisture diminishes y.m both, these influence y.e Growth of y.e Body considerably. 4.th It will depend upon

the Original stamina of different Con=
=stitutions which cannot be investigated
by us. —

we shall now point out y^e Several
Causes of Tension in the Body.

1: The Tension of Fibres will depend upon
the Bones they are attached to. they
will therefore be greatly influenced by the
growth of the Bones.

2^d: The Fibres of the Body are stretched
by weights constantly appended to them.
— such as the Bone prevailing over
another — Our Dress. Occupations in
Life &c.

3rd: Some parts of the Fibres of the Body
are at times overstretched by the
Matter they contain — such as the
Intestines = & Stomach — w^h are over=
=distended

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w: Aliment or wind. when the Tension of these is destroyed we find the whole Body brot into Sympathy. we find the Lungs greatly influence every Fibrous part of the body. hence when we want to exert the whole Body we fill the Lungs by a large Inspiration.

— the Thorax & Abdomen are held in a state of Tension by the vapour forced out into them w: is in an Elastic state. this too I believe tends to keep the Cellular Membrane in its proper State of Tension. we have some Reason to think the Cellular Mem:brane is a permanent Aerial Membrane constantly filled w: the Air. comment M: Jenar on this subject. if

Of the simple solids

This is the Case may not this Air tend to keep the Fibres in a state of Tension? But further if the Fibres are hollow, may they not be filled w: a subtile Fluid w: contributes likewise to keep the Fibres tense. These Causes hitherto pointed out are in=
=ternal, But there are several exter=
=nal Causes w: influence the state of Tension in the Body as the different state of the incumbent Air. The Tension is further kept up i: by all the parts of the Body being United together by more than One Fibre, or Membrane. Now if any of these are destroyed, the Tension will of Consequence be diminished, as we see in Aneurisms from the internal Coat of

of the simple solids.

an Artery being wore away. 2nd: the state of Tension will be varied by the Exercise or Action w: the Fibres undergo. 3rd: the Fibres will be firm & Elastic in proportion as they are filled w: vapour. but if they are filled w: Inelastic Matter instead of vapour a Flaccidity will be induced. 4th: a Morbid Rigidity will be induced when the Matter w: forms the Bones is effused into the cellular Membrane. 5th: a Rigidity will be induced when coagulable Lymph stagnates in the cellular Membrane. 6th: a Morbid Flaccidity will be brôt on when a solid Matter is washed from a part to w: it belongs as in Cases where the Bones grow soft. this may

occasioned by too much water being insinuated into them? But why don't we find them swelled if this is y case? we generally find them diminished. the water then must act as a solvent & thus wash out the solid parts of the Bones. But how this water acts as a solvent I cannot say. we are sure it is not acid, nor can I think it has any kind of chemistry.

7: the state of Tension in y Cellular Membrane will be varied according as it is kept longer or shorter in a ~~contorted~~ contracted or stretched state.

(d) we come now to treat of the Pathology of the simple solids. But of this we have hinted pretty largely

of the Simple solids.

When speaking of their Physiology. I shall 1st point out their morbid Affections & 2nd endeavour to point out their Causes.

1st These morbid Affections are to be considered in two views (a) the naturally soft parts (b) the naturally hard parts.

(a) the soft parts are liable to Diseases from the Excess or Defect of Cohesion Elasticity & Flexibility. we must observe 1st these are even in a healthy state different in different Ages. 2d is Rigidity in a Young person is Health in an old person. the first Diseases they are subject to, are Debility Flaccidity & Laxity. By Debility I understand a weakness in the state of Cohesion.

By Lacity I understand a Defect of Firmness. Cohesion & Elasticity being given, & arises from an Excess of fluid Matter in the Solids wch destroys their Firmness without lessening their Cohesion. By Flaccidity I understand a Defect of Elasticity. I believe it is seldom seperated from Lacity, but we shall consider them as different.

Diseases from Excess of Cohesion Elasticity & Flexibility are 1° too much Rigidity when Flexibility is destroyed wch induces too much Elasticity. as they are never seperated I include them both together.

1st the Diseases of the hard parts are of 3 kinds 1° the hard Consistence remaining wth the weakness of Cohesion,

101 See Lord Anson's voyage round the world.

2.do where the hard Consistence remains
th
w: Excess of Cohesion. 3.rd where the
Consistence in the hard parts is lost or
destroyed.

2nd
2: we now come to enquire into y c
remote Causes of these Diseases.

1 Debility. this depends (a) upon
a weakness of the Original stamina.
(b) upon want of Nourishment or a
want of proper assimilation - or appli=
=cation of nourishment (c) it depends
on Aliment 1st contains too little nutri=
=tious matter, or 2d abounds too much
water (d) upon vitiated nou=
=rishment. thus the fancy 4th w: seems to
depend on Debility is brot on by viti=
=ated Aliment. this we know from
old wounds (a) breaking out afresh

(a) May not the Rickets - Scrophula &c
depend upon this Cause? —

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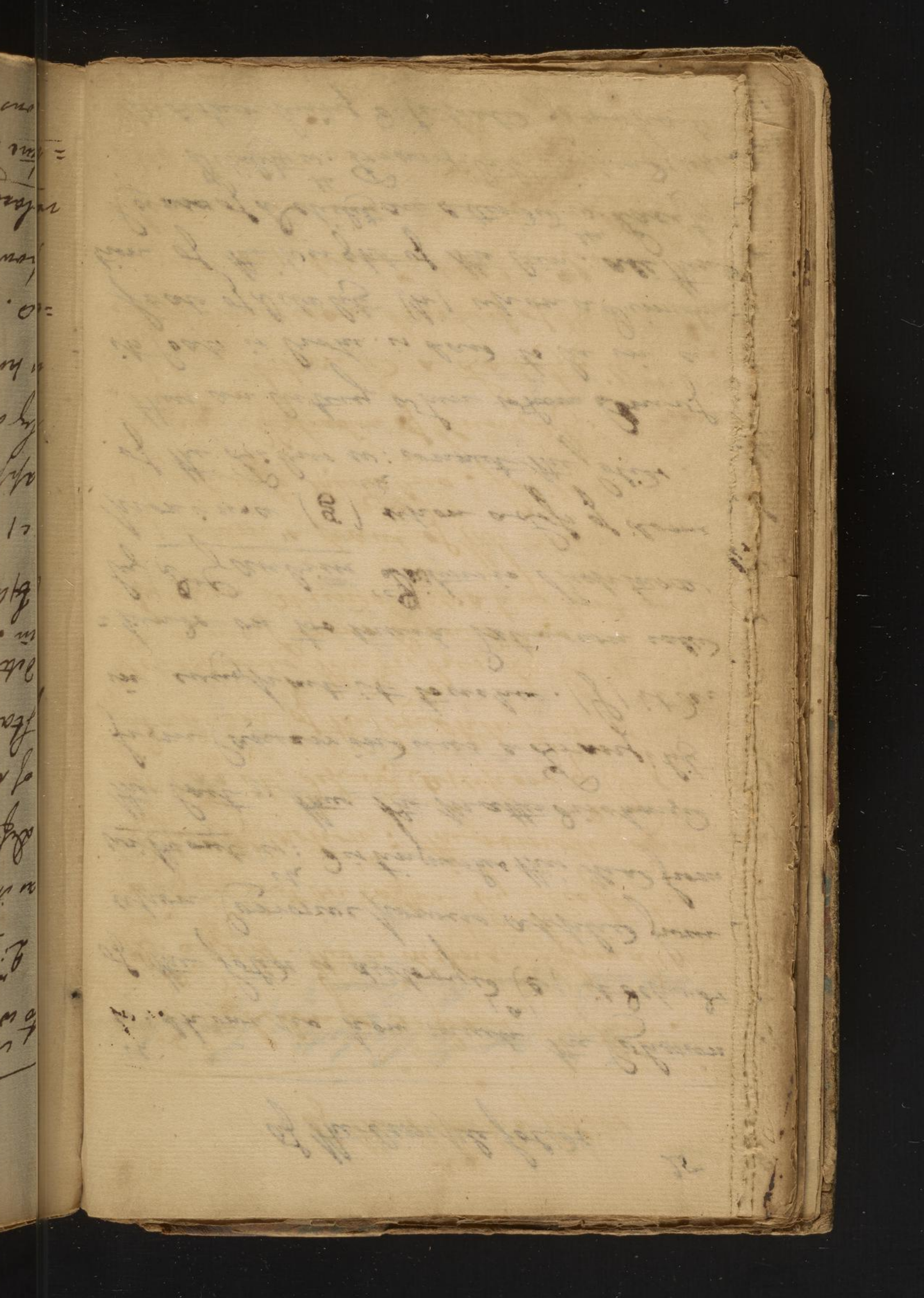
w:h shows us how much the Cohesion of the Solids is destroyed (a) (e) it depends upon Corrosive powers applied from without w:h distinguishes this Head from the last. thus the Matter discharged from Cancers induces a Frangibility in every part it touches. (f) it depends on too much Extension called by Dr Gaubius "Distensio Ruptura proxima" (g) upon a Loss of some of the Fibres w:h connect the Solids.

thus an Artery when ~~whom~~ One of its Coats is broke. is said to be in a state of Debility (h) upon a diminution of the weight of the Chin. all these Causes of Debility are attended w:h Laxity.

(i) Debility w:h Frangibility depends upon moisture being dissipated from parts



to wch it belongs as from the skin.

2nd Laxity. this is distinguish'd from Debility as it is brot on rather by Excess than Defect of Motion. the remote Causes of Laxity depend (a) upon y Original stamina of the Constitution which determines the Fibres to be more lax in some Persons than others

(b) upon abundant watery nourishment,

(c) upon a want of the drying powers applied to the Fibres. Solids become such by an Abstraction of Humidity. When this is not Abstracted a Laxity will be indu=ced. Exercise is the chief of these Applied powers (d) upon the Application of relaxing powers wch are 1, Heat 2 Moisture. Heat relaxes by resolving the consistent parts of the solids. Moisture

relaxes most powerfully especially when joined with Heat. Dr Benj: Robinson found the relaxing power of cold water to be 35°. I think ye relaxing power of warm water may be fixed at 80. — But does moisture penetrate beyond the Cuticle? — I much doubt whether warm water insinuates itself beyond it. it is absorbed & circulates thro' the Lymphatics & may thus act on the whole Body like Excess of Humidity introduced by the Mouth. hence we see the Absurdity of those Medical Authors who talk so much of the relaxing power of Moisture. it never can enter ye solids immediately, and it relaxes only in a secondary way, by being poured into them from ye Map of circulating Fluids.

of the simple solids

3.rd Placidity - the Remote Causes of this Disease are (a) those Causes of Laxity viz: introduce moisture into the Solids. (b) too long Rest in an extended state (c) too much vapour Oil or Water introduced into the cellular membrane more especially the last.

4.th Rigidity. depends (a) upon the state of the Original stamina. (b) upon Redundant nourishment in Quantity Quality & Application (c) upon constringing & condensing powers applied. the most powerful of these is Cold especially when it is excessive. here we see how it limits the Growth of Mundane & other Animals in very cold Climates.

But Rigidity is not always proporti=
=oned to Cold, for the retained Perspiration
by its moisture counteracts the constrin=
=ging powers of Cold. excessive Heat likewise
by dissipating moisture induces Rigidity.
(d) Certaingent Medicines are said to
bring on Rigidity, but Dr. Robinson
found the solutions of Alum & vitriol rather
relaxed than contracted the Fibres he
used. in y^e^ human Body they constringe only
by acting on the solida viva or Nervous System.
(d) upon too much Rest in a contracted
state.
(e) upon every Degree of Tension wi^th^in y^e^
point of Bleaking.
(f) Rigidity in the Organized parts of the
Body depends upon Compression especially
in the Cellular Membrane. It is owing

+ adhesion

to this q: Our solids are acquiring strength in the progress of Life

(E) Rest in a contracted posture. I speak of here of Rigidity induced by q cell: substance.

i, Rigidity will be brót on where the solid parts are deprived of intervening Fluids. hence the Accretion of q Lungs to the Pleura, & of the Guts to One Ano:=ther. the Exudation of Coagulable Lymphs forms the connecting Medium.

k, Rigidity is in the last place brót on by such an Extension as gives Occasion to a new Growth.

To all than we may add a Rigidity in:=duced when all kind of softness is destroy:=ed as in the Case of Ossification.

I shall now proceed to take no=tice of the naturally hard parts.

of the simple Solids

These are subject to three kinds of Diseases.

1st: When Cohesion is destroyed, & a tender Fragility induced. does this depend on the Bones being heterogeneous masses & upon one of their constituent parts being washed away? I think not.

— If rather seems to depend upon corroding fluids applied to them which erodes them. W: is the nature of this corroding Matter? we cannot tell. we can only say that they appears to be different species of it W: we may infer from the Venereal & the scrofulous & the scrofulous Caries differing from each other.

2nd: When Flexibility is ~~[illegible]~~ so Destroyed & Bones in y: they break easily. it is hard to tell when this occurs. it is cap

(2) Residents such as Falls likewise happen oftener in winter than in summer from the ground on which we walk being more elastic. —

of the simple solids.

Disease incident to Old People wch is owing to the Quantity of bony Matter encreasing by Age, from a Diminution of the Water & Oil wch are necessary to give the Bones a due Flexibility.

Dr Jenkins takes Notice of a Fragility in the Bones wch takes place in Winter, wch he infers from Fractures happening Oftnest in that Season. But this can not be true. no Cold can reach the Bones without debaging Life. the generating powers of Heat in a System overcome the Action of the most intense external Cold. the Fractures wch occur in Winter may be rather imputed to the Muscles acting wch more Force upon the Bones than in Summer.

Of the simple Solids

3 The Bones are liable to a Disease where they lose entirely their solid & fixe Consistence. in all these Cases of the Bones is diminished. It may depend either on Acrimony applied to them w:ch I think rather improbable. — or upon mild dissolving powers w:ch do soften them as to make them more easily absorbed into the System. this I think the most probable Opini=on.

Of the Nervous System.

a knowledge of the Functions of the Nerves is of the utmost importance not only in the Physiology but in the Patho:logy as you will see more fully here:after. All our Motions both Vital & Animal depend upon them. therefore I hope you will excuse me if I dwell a little upon them, & endeavour to illustrate some of their Functions.

The Nervous System along the Vora in Cerebellum the Medulla Oblongata & Spinalis. it comprehends likewise the Nerves w:ch are distributed to every Sensible part of the Body. The Extremities of the Nerves are all

connected wth two sets of Organs viz the Nerves of Sense and Motion. Under the Head of Sense I do not mean to treat of all the Senses, and the Manner in wh functions are communicated to the Brain by them, nor under the Head of Motion do I propose to treat of the Force of Muscles &c. — these are equally foreign from our Subject. — The Whole Phenomena of the Nervous System may be reduced to 1 Impression, 2d Thought, & 3 Contraction. — do all these Phenomena depend upon Motion? I am far from asserting it. — The 2d is not the Property of Matter but depends upon Spirit or some or some immaterial principle, but I affirm that

it never can exist without Motion, y^t is without Impressions communicated by the Organs of Sense or Motion, according to the Maxim of the Schools "Nil est in Intellectu quod non prius fuit in Sensu".

Of Impression

The Term as here used is confined only to the Actions of those Bodies wch are made on the Nervous System. it comprehends 1st all we can discover in external Bodies y^t are relative to Ours 2nd it comprehends the Motion excited in the Extremities of the Nerves. 3rd it comprehends ye Motion wch is propagated from ye Extremities of the Nerves to their Origin. I here make no Distinction between the Organs of Sense & Motion, as Impressions operate equally upon them both.

(a) the word Mental Impression are improper, as the Operations of the Mind we here speak of are two ways connected wth Impressions.

of the Nerves

Impressions are divided into two kinds
viz. Corporeal & 2nd: Mental. W: the 1st are
those w: are made by Matter on ye Body
the 2nd are those where ~~[illegible]~~ Thought is
produced without any manifest Motion.
&c.
All our Sensations are either direct or
reflex. The direct are such as found Colour
&c excite on the Mind. The Reflex are
such Impressions as are attended w: plea-
sure or pain, & are more purely Mental.
— I shall here speak only of those
Impressions ye: are Corporeal as these
can be more distinctly marked. I shall
not confine this kind of Impression to the
external Surface of the Body, but to
all those things w: operate within ye:
Body especially such as are extraneous
such as Worms — Calculi &c. I shall

(a) these are not to be called Impressions as ~~they~~ they arise only from the state of the Organs

extend these Corporeal Impressions to such as are excited by the Blood, for we shall find ye Dreams & Delirie depend upon its different States in the Brain. You see these Corporeal Impressions naturally divide themselves into 1st Internal and 2nd External. There are certain Sensations excited in the Mind from want of Impressions such as the disagreable Sensations wch arise from Filme or Darkness. Impressions will depend upon ye different States of our Nerves. Thus Heat & Cold produce Sensations according to ye Degrees of Heat & Cold in our Bodies. There are Sensations excited in the Mind wch do not arise from the Action of Bodies externally on the Nerves. This is a Distinction of Importance, & wch be after attended to.

of the Nerves

I shall now speak of ye different species of external Sensations. they are of 5 kinds according to the Distinction of most Philosophers. Smell - taste - Sight & hearing are all alike in the Sensations excited in them. all the Other Sensations are referred to Touch but I think improperly. for this Sense is too extensive & too much divided to be reduced to one name, both externally & internally. thus the Glottis ~~are~~ affected wth every thing y^t^ comes in contact wth the rarefied Air. the Stomach is affected wth a Stimulus y^t^ produces no action on ye Eye. & vice versa. does not this furnish some Suspicions of specific ~~Sensations~~ Stimuli?

all Sensations are communicated by a Subtile Otter wch fill Space

cas this supposition too y: the Nerves must be always stretched in order to suffer this inelastic Fluid to pass, & respass. now this we know is not the Case.

— That Sensations cannot be communicated by the Nerves as tense Elastic Cords is a Supposition too absurd to be insisted on.

of the Nerves

Newton first hinted at. This Fluid is not an aqueous inelastic substance as Dr Boerhaave has supposed, for ~~it~~ such a Fluid never could be fit for the velocity & accuracy which we observe in Sensation. (a)

<u>Vision</u> depends upon ~~an~~ Oscillatory Motions excited by the Rays of Light

<u>Hearing</u> depends likewise upon certain Oscillations excited on the Auditory Nerve by tremulous Motions in the Air which arise first from a tremulous Oscillatory Motion excited in the Sounding Body

<u>Smell</u> may be accounted for in the same Manner from elastic Vapours floating in the Air which produce

(as The Variety in Smells depends on the Mixture formed ~~by~~ from the floating Body & the Vapor in y Nose.)

Oscillatory Motions in the Nose. &c
thus Taste & Touch might be illustrated
in the same manner.

I do not pretend to say wch nature
of this Nervous Fluid is. Dr Haller denies
its being of an Electrical nature. I do
not apprehend it: it is, nor is Lusha
necessary to ass^t for the Phenomena
of Impressions. it may be a Fluid
some what Analogous to it.

But from whence is this Fluid derived
& how is it confined in the Nerves? this
is a difficult but not a desperate
~~subjected~~ question. Sir Isaac Newton has
supposed y^t all Bodies however solid
are inveloped th wth a Subtile Ether w^ch
likewise pervades them, & on this

of the Nerves

he supposes Attraction & Repulsion depends. 2.nd all the Phenomena of Electricity depend upon a subtile fluid. - all fluid Bodies of every nature are non Electricks. all Solid Bodies (Metals excepted) are Electricks. 3.rd the same Subtile Ethereal fluid gives the whole Phenomena of Magnetism in Iron. now may not the Medullary Fibres from their Original Conformation have a subtile Ethereal Fluid adhering to them like the magnet? we are acquainted only w.th the vibrations of Air, but as the Other heading to Sir Is. Newtons Opinion is millions of times finer. so he supposes y.t its vibrations may be carried on w.th millions of times quater velocity.

of the nerves.

Plants have been found to be possessed of irritability. this can only be by means of some subtle Ethereal fluid.

— From all this we may presume such a fluid is in the nerves. we dont pretend to say it is analogous to any of the fluids we have mentioned. it is different from them in some things. as Dr Cullens supposes.

But from whence comes this fluid in our nerves? — here let us have recourse to electricity. we find some Bodies have a power of accumulating it, others again propagate it as soon as it is thrown in them. thus we suppose the nerves ~~[illegible]~~ to attract it from all ~~the~~ surrounding Bodies.

Dr. Haller imagines ye this Fluid is derived from our Food. But we shall prove & hope hereafter ye it is not liable to Exaustion or Repletion. For the Nervous Fluid is neither present in our Aliment nor nourishments nor is it ever connected w: them till they are converted into Medullary Matter. If it is in our Aliment its Properties must be much changed before it is admitted into the Medull: Fibres. Thus we find melted Sulphur has no Attraction to the Electric Fluid, but when hardned into a Solid Mass becomes a powerful Electric. For Jean of Opinion w the Dr: De Bourideaux ye the Medullary Fibres are of an immutable unchangeable Nature. But how is it that

Of the Nerves

this Ethereal Fluid is confined? — to this I answer y: all Bodies have a Subtile Ether adhering to ye Surface, wh: has no Disposition to unite w: the surrounding Air. this ~~Bodies~~ Fluid is Elastic & disposed to expand Quaq=que Versa, & yet we find it may be propagated along a Metallic Cord for many Miles wont flying off — perhaps the Reason why it dont fly off is y: it is surrounded by Elastic Bodies such as Air. how may not the enveloping Membranes of the Nerves be Bodies unfit to propagate the Nervous Fluid, & may not this be the Reason why it is confined? for we find y: the greater or lesser pressure

of the Nerves.

of these ~~enclosing~~ enclosing Membranes very much influence its motions. I offer all these things as Conjectures but hope hereafter to prove them more fully. Another Question here arises & y^t is Are our Nerves hollow Tubes? - Why to this I answer it is not necessary, to suppose them such. for the Other is so Subtile that it may be propagated as well without hollow tubes. we before hinted in w: manner Ligatures acted in stopping its motion.

of the Nerves

We come now to the second Division we made viz to 2d Thought. I shall consider it as much as possible seperate from its Causes viz Impressions, under it shall include all ye Mental Operations, from volition to all the intermediate Operations between it & the Impressions. You see how very extensive the Subject is! – It is a Matter of the utmost Consequence, and of great Influence in Physic. I shall however confine myself to that wch is most applicable to our present System of Physic.

I shall Begin with Sensation wch is the Foundation of all ~~other~~ Other Mental Operations. It is a simple Idea not to be defined.

When Objects excite Ideas in our mind we call it Sensation. it arises in Consequence of motion excited in the Sensorium Commune. it is therefore a Function of the Origin of the nerves. — do Impressions excite Contraction without the Intervention of Sensation? yes I think they may. for 1st when a Muscle is cut out of the Body & an Impression made on it by a needle we find a Contraction excited on it. here no kind of Sensation intervenes, for here all Communication is cut off w: the Sensorium Commune, and the Animal has no Consciousness of it, Consciousness is always necessary to Sensation. But 2d we have other Instances in the living Bodies. thus the Impressions made on the Guts

by Purges excite no kind of Sensation in the Sensorium until the Matter purged off arrives at the Rectum. Some here tell us y: a Repetition of this Impression takes off Sensation. In many Cases this may happen, but in the Instance we have adduced it has no foundation for it takes place even in the first purge we give. Sw: ask here who ever felt a Sensation from the Operation of Diuretics? or even Impression Yet we see an Evident Contraction take place w: cannot be resolved into Habit. Cantharides it is true excite Sensation, but they operate on the Neck of the Bladder, & not on the Kidneys.

Another Question occurs here

(a) for the Contraction is necessitated
by a motion communicated thro the
Sensorium Commune

~~how omnoxious~~ we see y: Contractions are excited in places no ways connected by nerves or muscles w: th the place where the Impressions are made, Nor are not these Impressions accompanied w: th Sensation or Thought? (a) No they are not. I have seen a stone in the Kidneys excite Sickness & vomiting & yet the Patients never felt the least uneasiness in their Kidneys. Many other Examples of the like kind might be adduced in those Cases w: ch are called Sympathies. Sensation is connected w: th Impression only for the final purposes of alarming us by pain or allurring us by Pleasure.

I shall now go on to take Notice

of the Nerves

of those Impressions wch do excite Sen=
=sation. Our Sensations are different
according to the nature of Impression,
as in the sense of hard & soft &c. they
are different 2ly according to the nature
of the Organ they are made on. this
may depend on (as the Extremities of ye
Nerves being diversified, or (&) upon the
state of the Organ in which they termi=
=nate. thus we may conceive the audi=
=tory Nerve wch receives the Light if placed
in the Retina, & vice versa. 3rd Impres=
=sions are different according to the nature
of the sensation arising. there is no connec=
=tion between Impression & Sensation. there
is nothing in Colour ye: gives us ye least
Idea of their depending upon ye different
Refrangibility of the Rays of Light.

Of the Nerves

See Dr: Haller: Primaeviae § 556.

— This Observation is of the utmost Consequence as we here distinguish Body & Mind from each other, and it is the strongest Argument in Favour of the Immateriality of the Soul. All our Sensations upon see depend upon certain Arbitrary Institutions of our Creator. See no Reason why the Refrangibility of the Rays of Light wch give us ye Ideas of a red Colour shd not have given us the Ideas of blue. Sic Deo visum est.

the Laws of Sensation are

1: all our Sensations depend on Impressions but they are remarkably connected w: the Degrees of Impulse, insomuch as Some=times to change the Sensations. Thus Heat & Cold depend on ye same Impulse

but the Sensations they excite are very different. all Sensations therefore are as the Impulse given, & the Sensibility of the part they are made on.

2d – not only Force but Duration is necessary in Impressions in Order to excite Sensation. all transitory Impressions are indistinctly perceived. when an Impression remains for some time it excites y: Sensation w: we call Attention

3: Law, is that the Mind receives but One Sensation at One and the same time. – when the Mind is duelly engaged in One Sensation, any future Impressions made on the Body excite no Sensations. the transition of the Mind is so sudden from One sensation to Another that we are apt to deceive Ourselves, but I affirm y: y: mind can

of the Nerves

have but one Sensation at once.

4th: Several Impressions may operate at once when they can unite so as to produce one simple Sensation. all these Impressions must be of one species.

thus the Sensation of Green in our mind is compounded of Yellow and blue. the Green is as truly a simple Sensation as the blue or yellow. the same thing takes place in Sound. the Combination of agreable Sounds forms Harmony. the Combination of disagreable Sounds forms Discord. I think this Law will likewise hold very general 4th: Regard to the Sensations of Touch - Smell & Taste especially in

those of one kind. It is necessary in all Cases of Impressions of this nature or that they be Synchronous - that the Impressions be very minute - and duly mixed - 2nd all Sensations ~~[illegible]~~ continue some Sometime after the Impression is made. Now if an Impression is made imediately afterwards, the Impressions are compounded & a single Sensation excited. thus if a Boy paints his Top of a variety of Colours & whirls it, all the Impressions on the Top will unite & produce but one Sensation on ye Mind.

- This finishes our Acc^t^ of Sensation I go on to Observe y^t^ they may be renewed by the power of ye Soul called

(a) without this we never ch^d: become acquainted w^th: Nature, as every new Impression w^d: multiply our Ideas.

of the Nerves

Memory. this is of two kinds 1st
when the Sensation is excited by a
Renewal of the Impression. this is
called Reminiscence (a) or 2nd: when
the Sensations is recalled without any
Impressions which formerly excited them.
— this Last of Memory is of two Species 1st:
when the Idea is Lifs vivid & distinct than
it was in the Original Impression. 2nd:
when these Ideas are as strong & distinct
as the Original Ideas themselves were.
— this I distinguish by the name of
Imagination which renews Ideas so
strongly as to make us imagine the
Impressions to be present which at
first excited them. —— Lid: Hall 2559

of the nerves

Let us now enquire into the Causes of these Sensations. Why does Reminis=
=cence bring to our minds Ideas form=
=erly excited there? an Answer to this
would lead us into very subtile Discussions.

I shall only enquire into the
Circumstances w:ch attend it. In every
Impression we have a consciousness of dea
insomuch y: in all Nature we never find
any two things alike. hence y: mind
always enquires how far the Impression
resembles in all its Qualities the Impress=
=ion it had before. w: is the Cause of
Memory & Imagination? It depends
either on an Association of Ideas
w:th a present external Impression or
upon internal Impressions made

on the Sensorium Commune. in this Association of Ideas is called Judgement & depends on a certain Relation of Impressions in Position place & time: so that from one Impression many former Ideas may be renewed y: are connected in either of the above Ways. this is the ordinary Cause & Exercise of Memory. But there is another Cause depending on Impressions made on y Sensorium Commune as in Dreams & Delirio.

Dreams indeed often arise from external Impressions. thus sound, or an Over Load of Food often bring on dreams, co y: they appear to be somewhat connected wth external Impressions.

Delirio depend upon the increased Impulse of the Blood at the Basis of the Brain. in all Dreams & Delirium Imagination is excited rather than Memory. I shall hereafter consider them as morbid Cases. I shall now take notice of some Laws w: th: take place in Memory. 1: that no Idea can be recalled to the Mind that was not excited by some Impression from some Sense of Sensation. 2nd: all the Ideas acquired by Impression cannot be renewed by memory. none but those w: th: are acquired by Hearing & Seeing. I can recollect sounds & prospects, but cannot recall the Ideas of

Smell - Taste - or Touch - happy for us we cannot renew the Sensations of Pain. the Ideas arising from Smell or Taste can only be renewed by certain Signs such as words or sounds wch have formerly been associated wth them. we only remember wt these Sensations were, & can sometimes feel the Effects of them as in thinking of Ipecacuana but in these Cases we do not remember the Taste of Ipecacuana.

It is by means of Memory we distinguish between madness & sound sense & Dreaming & waking. for the waking man in his Senses recalls his Ideas in ye Train in wch they had been associated wch I would call Coherence in

thinking. thus when I am seated in my own Chamber ~~I~~ when I recol-lect my having given a Lecture. I always recall the Idea of this Chamber & of the several Gentlemen: surround me w: their Drap-visage- Employment &c.

Now in Dreams &c: this subject lie but to my mind my Ideas will be confused, & &c: perhaps ~~imag~~ imagine this Chamber altered - the Gentlemen who surround me ~~as~~ changed in y: Drap-or visage, or perhaps employed in a different manner than I now see them.

The different states of Memory depend upon the state of y Sensorium Commune. Memory is located in the Brain. this is evident from Children

who have no Memories till they are 5 Years Old, or from Old Persons who forget all late Ideas, but recall those excited early in Life. we see too many Instances of a Loss of Memory in the middle of Life from morbid affections of the Brain .. 2: Memory is different according to the Power w: which the first Impression was made as we observed when speaking of Attention 3: Memory is different according to the Novelty or Surprize of the Idea first received.

4: Memory differs as Ideas are attended more or less w: the reflex Sensation that is from being more

or less accompanied 4th w: Pleasure or Pain, or being more or less interesting.
5th Ideas are retained longer or shorter according to their Relation more especially according to the Relation of Time. we forget those Relations soonest which depend on certain marks or Signs.
6th Memory will be more or less strong according to the Number of times Ideas have been excited on the mind.
7th Ideas will be recalled according to the Perception of Relation which they bear to no. —

Memories are of two kinds, such as are tenacious of Signs only such as Names or Languages 2nd Such as are tenacious of Relations. this constitutes wis called Judgement. a man who

professes this must also possess the former in some Degree, but a Man who has the former to a great Degree generally wants the last, as his Mind is occupied Only wth external Relations or mere Signs.

we come now to Speak of Reflex Sensations

1st Then all direct Sensations are Attended wth Pleasure or pain. this some have Doubted, & have said there are Adiaphorous Sensations but if there are any they must be very few. the Terms here used viz: Pleasure & pain are liable to Ambiguity in being confounded wth Other Sensations that are painful or pleasing Only in a lesser Degree, or in

they may be perhaps of another kind. thus Pain Sh: be applied only to y: Sensations arising from a cutting of a Knife, or from any Injury done to the body.

Uneasy Sensations are such as arise from Nausea &c.

Disagreable Sensations are such as arise from viewing an ugly Picture or any thing of the kind.

The Pleasing Sensations may be divided into agreable - delightful and pleasant as arising from viewing a beautiful prospect - from Alacrity & from Venery.

Every Reflex Sensation excites to volitions so y: they serve as a Chain to connect Sensation & Volition.

all ~~Pa~~ Perfect Sensations are attended
w: pleasure or pain & therefore
excite to Action. But before we pro=
=ceed we shall distinguish between Ins=
=tinct & Reason. every Act of ye Will
arises from simple distinct sensa=
=tion or from the perception of Relation
- When it arises from simple distinct
Sensation it is called Instinct, but
when it arises from the Perception of
Relations it is called Reason.

- I shall now take notice of ye Circum=
=stances w: attend volition, but I shall Observe
1: there can be no volition without Sensa=
=tion,
2: there may be certain motions in the
Body without our Consciousness of

them as in expressing our Passions by the Muscles of the Face.

3d: There are Motions attended with Volition wch have been called Propensity wch determines us to get Rid of any Uneasiness without having any ~~Design~~ End in view for this purpose! such as in the Actions of Yawning - Sneezing - Coughing &c. Some will tell you that we have an End in view in these Actions; but if we have it is only in Consequence of their having been repeated.

4th: There are certain Actions wch depend on Stimuli yt cannot be performed wout them. they are connected with the former, & have no End in view. as

in the Case of our Appetities. Thus we cannot perform the Act of Deglutition altho' a voluntary motion without some Degree of Hunger. See a Remarkable Case of this kind in Hildanus.

5th There are Motions which arise not from simple Sensations but are deduced from Reasons & are excited as means to an End. The former Motions are all Involuntary or Instinctive this last Rational & Voluntary.

of the Nerves

we come now to speak of Contraction. Contraction takes place in certain parts of our System only, from wch it has been inferred yt it depends upon a peculiar Organization of these parts. we shall first enquire whether this Contraction depends upon an Elasticity yt is peculiar to them in common w the other matter, & secondly whether this Contractility is peculiar to Muscular Fibres independant of their Connection w the Brain from their Conformation as Dr Haller has supposed.

As to the 1st Question we may observe yt the Contraction in

Muscular Fibres is much greater than in other kinds of Elastic matter.

2d: Elastic Bodies are Contracted by bending power Alone, but Muscular Fibres are contracted by Substances wh: have no Tendency to bend them but as Stimuli. Muscles upon this acc: are said to be possessed of Irritability. but I think Excitability would be a better word as the term Irritability expresses Sense. we shall however call it hereafter after Dr Whytt Irritability.

3d: All Elastic Bodies when stretched return Again to their Orig: Length, nor can anything make them contract when

(a) Elastic Matters are capable of Contraction only when in a State of Tension, but this is not the Case with Animal Fibres, for they contract when relaxed, or even when cut out of the Body.

they are in this State of Tension. But all Muscular Fibres we know are in a State of Tension at times, & yet are capable when stretched of Contraction. (Ca.)

4th: Muscular Contraction is peculiar to living Systems only. hence it is justly called by Dr. Gaubius vis vitalis as opposed to the vis mortua wh: relates to Contraction in simple Elastic Bodies. — we grant a Muscular Contraction may sometimes take place in Matter wh: has no Sense, but then this Matter must have been once connected with Animal Life. —

of the Nerves

Let us now enquire to wh. parts of the System this Contraction belongs. — we know it belongs to all Muscles, but how shall we tell wh: parts of the Body are muscular & wh: are not? — some Physiologists confine it to all parts that are possessed of Irritability which I know of nothing to contradict. On wh: Organization does ye Contraction of Muscular Fibres depend? — this is a most difficult Question. But before we discuss this we shall enquire whether this Contraction is peculiar to Muscular Fibres themselves, or whether it depends on the Brain? — all Physiologists

of the nerves.

suppose some auxiliary power such as an influx of blood or nervous Other to be necessary to Contraction except Dr: Haller & a few Others. we grant that a ~~nerve~~ Muscle cut out of the Body is a nerve fired to it will contract. But this continues but a very short time. on w: does it depend? on the Mechanism of the Muscle? or on a sentient principle? the last is improbable. we must then admit Dr: Haller's vis Insita & say there may be Contraction without any influx or auxiliary power. we find Contraction

(a) Le Prime Linee § 403. & 404

of the nerves

continues even in the living Body when the nerves are tied w: belong to the contracting Muscles. it makes no Difference when the Muscle is tied. The Irritability is the same whether near the Muscle or the Brain. thus you see I agree w: Dr Haller in his notions of the vis Insita, but differ from him, by supposing y: it depends on y same Elastic Fluid w: excites Contraction in every other parts of the Body. this differs from the Contractions being the same in a Muscle cut out of the Body whether we touch the Muscle or nerves w: enters into it. this is sufficiently proved in Dr Smith's Thesis. Ignota hic desunt Causa Agitationis.

# of Contraction

Contraction does depend upon any Organization of the Muscle, but is derived from the Sensorium Commune, & flows from it in all the Acts of Sensation & Volition. This is proved 1: from Ligatures on Nerves preventing Contraction in those Muscles they are distributed to. 2: from the fowls having its feet there. This is easily proved from the Faculties of the Fowl being impaired by an Injury done to the Brain Only either Directly or indirectly. 3: from the Renewal of Ideas or the Exercise of Memory which remains after every Other part of the Body is impaired except the Brain.

# of Contraction

1st: If a Ligature is made near the Brain, & an Impression made on a remote part of the body no Sensation is excited. 5th We often see Sympathetic excited in Muscles when the Impressions are made on Muscles in a different part of the body. This does not depend on any Connection of Nerves. but is occasioned by Motion communicated from the Brain. This w: all Sympathies are made. 6th: We often find Persons complain of Sensations when the Limb in w: they feel it has been long cut off. w: can this depend on? Sure it shows y: Sensation & Contraction are derived from y: Brain. But to all these Arguments Some Object & say that there

Contraction

There are Animals who live & exercise Sensation & Contraction who have no Brains or very worldly Brains. To this I would answer that this Argument is founded on false Facts. many Experiments have shown us Brains in Vermin=: mals in w^h Dr Haller has denied its pres=: ence. but independent of this, we must not confine our notions of Brain too much. it may be extended all thro the Medulla Spinalis, & different parts of it may be of more or less consequence in different Animals. Sensation & Moti=: ons are not only confined to y^e Brain but the Understanding also. this is evident 1st from the Brain's being the Origin of all the Nerves, 2nd from 4 of the Senses being

1

seated only in the Head. As to y^e Cases of the Intellectual Faculties being left unimpaired by Lesions of the Brain, I think they are liable to great Fallacy. — an Injury of the cortical substance of the Brain we know does not affect ye Understanding, nor even slight wounds of but One side of the Brain. Besides I am apt to doubt the truth of many of the Facts adduced. — let us now enquire into ye mechanism on wch Contraction depends. a most difficult Subject! & abounding wth Conjectures wch show its obtrusiveness. I would reject all ~~the~~ such of these Conjectures wch suppose Contraction to depend on ye motion of

Contraction

the Blood as Ligatures on Arteries sufficiently demonstrate. See Dr. Haller § 406. — we find muscular motion continues even after the Heart is cut out from a Frog. this confirms w^h I am advancing beyond a Doubt. If then any nervous power is necessary to cause for contraction it must come from the nerves, even those who suppose the soul to be seated in the Muscles allow this. Physiologists have imagined y^t the influx of ye Ether of the nerves was insufficient for contraction, ~~but~~ & have called in a peculiar Organization of the Muscles to cause for it. But this will not cause for the degree or velocity of Muscular motion.

Contraction

I think it rather depends upon ye Other of our Nerves being propelled into the Muscles, & overcoming ye Resistance of ye Other wch always comes not only our Muscles but all Other Elastic Bodies. — a Doctrine this first delivered by Sir Isaac Newton! who explains Elasticity by it, & gives us exact Calculations of the Rarity & Elasti^y of this several Others. the Spiral form of ye Nerves wch Dr Smith has lately demonstrated seems to favour this supposition.

But ~~[illegible]~~ how are Muscles excited to Contraction when cut out of the Body? to this we answer y^t the Other of our Nerves is in a very Elastic

(a) to this we may add y^e all muscles have an Alternate Contraction and Relaxation wch may arise from y^e Tendons of the Other to restore it self to an Equili:=brium: from this we Au^s for y^e vital & Involuntary Motions.

mobile state, & when put in motion by a stimulus applied to y muscular Fibres reacts again & thus excites motion. Besides the Other of the Fibres may have such Oscillations by stimuli as to produce this motion &c. Here we must say a few things on stimuli. all stimuli are Chemical or mechanical. the Action of the first depends on the Diffrence of Oscillations in the Objects w: excite Parts or Actions, for all Bodies have an Other peculiar to themselves w: hen Oscillations according to the diffrent nature of its Parts. But how do such: stimuli act in those Cases where there is no Impulse? - Why as Repellents only. such stimu: li must have sharp points & therefore act by removing the nervous Fibrils

Contraction

from one another. or by the attractive
certain going out from them into our
nerves at a point & thus gives us pain.
— But how do sedatives act? This is
a difficult Question. I formerly supposed
the sedatives mixed w: the nervous fluid
& thus destroyed its mobility. we have several
Chemical Analogies w: confirm this. but
I see many objections to it, & therefore
am willing to desert it. I think a better
explanation may be given. we just now
presumed that sharp pointed stimu-
li added to the other of our nerves. now
may we not presume likewise certain
substances such as sedative Medicines
have a power of abstracting this other?
— we have a strong Analogy to confirm

Contraction

this in the Communication of the Electric matter to Non=Electrics.

Let us now enquire into the dif==ferent states of Muscular Fibres. 1st on w: does Spasm depend? why on two Causes. 1st on too great an Affection of the his Nervea, but why it shd: remain so I cannot say. 2nd: on the strething powers being taken off from muscles lying too long in one position. I shall hereafter speak more fully on this subject.

— 2d w: does Convulsion depend? this has been confounded w: Spasm by Dr Sanbius & Others, but I think them essentially different & depend on different causes. If Muscles act w unusual force or velocity we say they are convulsed. — if they remain long in a contracted

Contraction

situation we say they are affected w the Spasm. a Want of Tension is the great Predisposition to Convulsion.

— This Tension is called Tone or tonic power, & depends upon an equable Distribution of the nervous Fluid. If this by any Accident does not press uno upon any part of the Body an Atonia is induced. this Atonia differs from Palsy in not depending upon an Interruption but on a want of compression of the ~~tis~~ nerves.

Before we discuss the Laws of the nervous system we shall give a short

Recapitulation

Here I would premise w: I ought

Recapitulation

to have done before & y^t is that all the Phenomena of Nature are to be expl^d Mechanically under its different modi:- fications of Pressure & Impulse. We have retarded the progress of Philosophy much by restricting our Notions of Mechanism. — The Corpuscularians have endeavoured to acc^t for every thing from the Action of hard Bodies on each Other, but later Inquiries have taught us to call in the Action of Subtile Elastic Matter w^h evolves many Phenomena in Nature hitherto unexplained; as the Theory of Electricity Magnetism — Light — Gravitation &c. — Visionary & Fanatical Philosophers

Recapitulation

have ever been found of calling in immaterial Agents which have tended much to check a free Inquiry into ye Operations of Nature.

a Nec Deus intersit &c Hor:

But to come more nearly to our Subject. 1 By the Nervous System I understand the Brain - Medulla Oblongata & Spinalis & the Nerves terminating in all parts of the Body together wth all Muscular Fibres which are endowed wth the same Sensibility & profiting the same Office that is peculiar to the Nerves. From this Search we may infer the Muscles have ye same Structure as the Nerves.

2nd We said every part of ye Nervous

Recapitulation

System was connected which we infer from motions being communicated so uniformly all over the Body by impressions made on one part only.

3rd. All ~~Beings~~ actions are carried on by motions excited in the Other y^t adheres to our nervous substance. This I infer from all Impressions depending on Oscillations excited ~~on our bodies~~ by the Body impressions. Now these Oscillations can only be bro't on by the motion of some subtile Fluid in our nerves, for Oscillations can only act by exciting Oscillations. This Other is not only present in our nerves, but is always in an excited state, somewhat analagous to ye state of Electricks when the Electric matter is accumulated in them. to this Analogy we

ca, this state of excitability in our nerves is kept up by heat as we shall show more fully hereafter.

Recapitulation

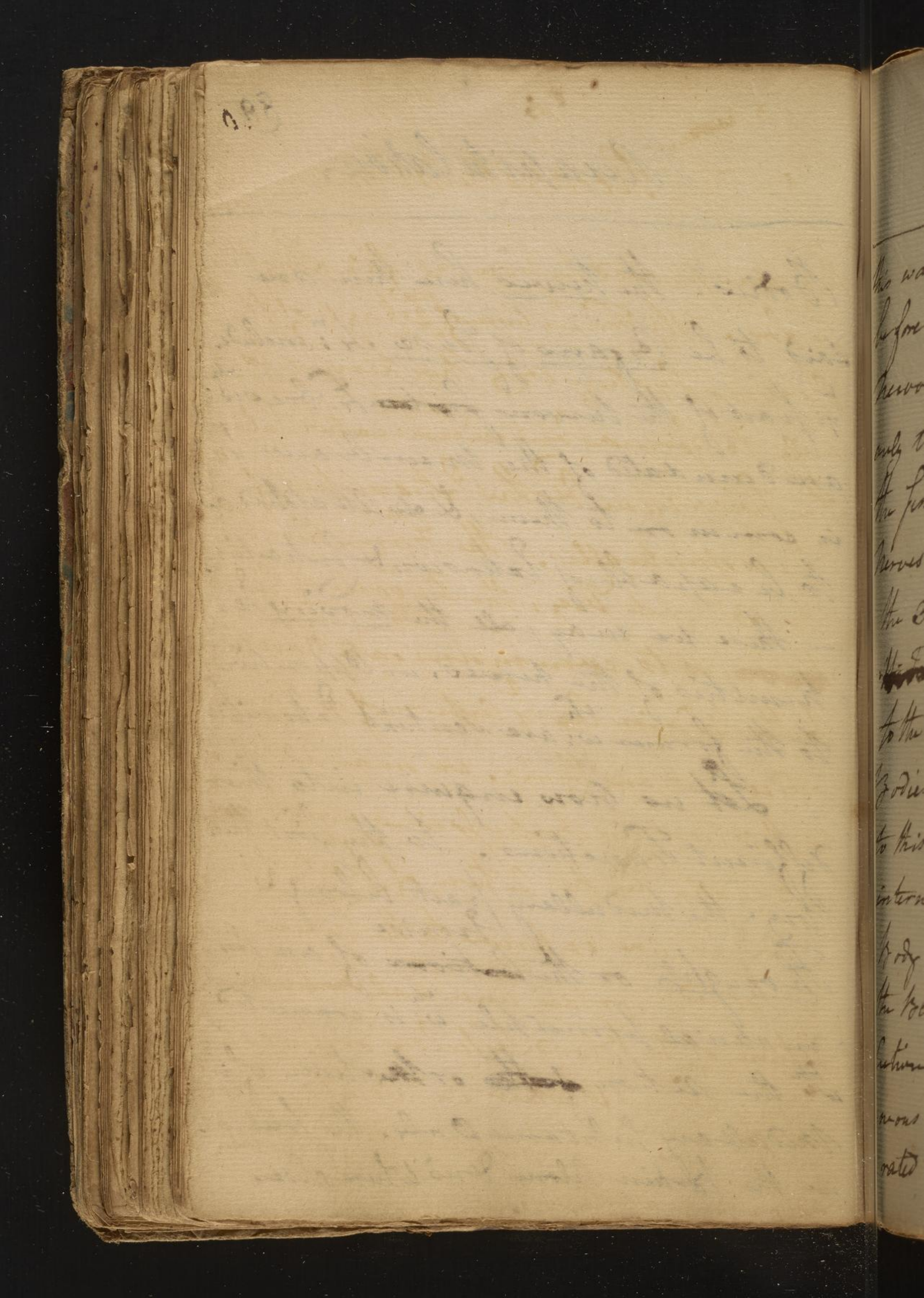
must add 4th it is not only in an ex-
-cited but Elastic state. 1st

4th The nervous System is distinguished into
4 parts, wch have each of them different
Functions. The 1st Difference consists in
its Fabrick in being arranged in distinct
Fibres sometimes however arranged
& mixed wch each other. This therefore in-
-cludes the Medullary part of the nervous
System. 2nd under this second Head
I would include the Nerves wch consist
of the same matter as the Medullary part,
& are disposed in Fibres. 3rd includes
the Nerves Denudated of a Membrane
wch they have in the 2nd state mentioned.
- in this situation they are exposed
to be acted on by the Impulse of external

Recapitulation

Bodies. the nerves here spoken are said to be Organs of Sense. y^e: includes y^e: part of the nervous ~~system~~ Fibres w^ch: are denudated of the Membrane y^t: is common to them, & so Attatched as to be capable of Extension & Contraction. these we may call the moving E^xtremities of the nerves, in Opposition to the former w^ch: are sentient Extremities

Let us now enquire into their different Functions. to the first then viz: the Medullary part belong Thought or the ~~Actions~~ Exercise of an immaterial principle w^ch: is connected w^th: the action ~~of the~~ or motion of y^e: Medullary Substance Only. the footsteps in the Brain Alone & no where else.



Recapitulation

this was proved to you at full Length before. the Function of 2d part of the nervous System viz the nerves is only to form a communication between the sensorium & the Extremities of ye nerves mutually. the Function of the 3d part viz: the Organs of sense is to communicate sensations to the Brain by ye action of external Bodies upon them. we may add also to this certain Impressions made internally by the Action of such parts of the Body as are exterior to the nerves. as the Blood - or an unusual ~~Impulse~~ Action of the Blood vessels - or by extraneous Bodies whether introduced or generated there. I mentioned formerly

that

or free

[illegible]

be called

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Recapitulation

that Impressions were either Chemical or mechanical. the Chemical you may remember we reduced to the mechanical, & called them only the unknown Mechanical.

– If we admit Impressions altering the State of Mixture & Aggregation in the Fluid of our Nerves we may then talk of Chemical Impressions ~~being~~ ~~mechanical~~ also. the parts of our Body are all of them Sentient, so y. our whole System may be considered as a Sentient System. Same Impressions act equably on all parts of y. Body as the Mich. Stimuli. Some again act more powerfully on muscular Fibres such as Compressions – &

Recapitulation

Heat & Cold. But there are some Sen-
-sations w: can be excited only from
Impressions made on particular
parts. this is difficult to be explained.
— it may depend on the greater or
less Vascularity — Expansion & Tension
of the Fluids & Nerves which occasion
their giving different Sensations. further
there are Nerves connected w: certain
Apparatus in their Termination w:
qualifies them to admit the Impulse
of certain Bodies only, as the Eye & light
— the Ear sound & the like. It is by
Impression that Life is first Excit
ed, & I hope I shall prove that

It is by Impression only that Life is maintained.

The Formation of the 1st part of the System viz: the Muscular Fibres is to serve as Organs of Sense & Motion. as Organs of Motion they are destitute of a covering they had in the Nerves. 2nd they are from their Spiral Form & their Attachment to Other capable of Extension & Contraction in common w: all simple Elastics.

3d they are all in common w: the solids in a state of Tension. 4th they are in a state of Limited Elasticity

Recapitulation

thus differ from simple Elasticity, & abound w: an Other on the Abstraction or Addition off w: the Action of Sedatives & Stimulants depend.

Having finished y Recapitulation I shall now proceed to speak of the general Laws of the nervous system. 1st I shall speak of Sensibility & Irritability.

All Bodies w: act upon us produce Sensations, this Capacity of having excited Sensations, is called Sensibility. — those Bodies w: excite motion are said to produce Irritation, and the parts capable of this are said to

Ann Lane

be proportioned of Irritability. There can be no Contraction without Sensation, & it is ~~always~~ in many Cases ~~in~~ exactly proportioned to this Sensation. See Dr. Gaubius §190 where he says Irritabilit, is always proportioned to Sensibility. See also §17h But this is by no means universally true. Altho it is difficult to point out where they are to be distinguished. — The same Causes do generally produce the same Effects, but this ought be used w: some limitation. Causes are not always simple, but often compound, & the Effects will always be according to the Nature of the Causes.

Laws of the Nervous System

Contraction ~~motion~~ is not therefore always pro=
=portioned to sensation, but may be
altered considerably by the different
states of the Nerves on wch the Impressi=
=ons are made, & by the nature of
the Impressions made. hence there a
foundation for distinguishing sen=
=sibility & Irritability! . But
further 1: Contraction from sensation
~~too~~ arises from volition But we
often see Contraction without volition.
2nd we see sensation without Contraction
as in paralytic Limbs wch depends on
a want of Irritability. Contraction
3rd ~~Effects~~ there may be ~~sensations~~
& no ~~Contraction~~ sensation from a want of

Laws of the nervous system

Sensation in the muscles the vis nervea being given. This is illustrated by taking up a light weight after having bore a heavy One. a trembling and weakness will always in this Case felt in the hand. There may be great Causes wch act on the whole system wch act alike on sensibility & irritability. When this is the Case I call it <u>mobility</u>. When there is a Defect in both I call it <u>Inertia</u>.

But when external Causes act on the sentient parts only we say here when the parts are too sentient, ie. there is an Excess of sensibility. When sensations are dull & not proportioned

as a Case of a Young woman whose
System from sundry Causes was suspected of
an Excess of Irritability. Transcribed Com:

to Impressions we say there is a
Torpor. But when external Causes action
the power of Motion only so as to
carry it to an Excess we call it
Irritability. Where it is Defective
we call it Torpor. The Case Van:
=Swieten mentions was not owing to
an Excess of Sensibility but of Irrita=
=bility which I infer from the Cure y:
was used to her w:ch was restoring
the Tension of her System by Bandages.

I shall now speak of a 2nd
Law of our System viz: the power
of Custom & Habit w:ch have been
so much Observed in our Animal Oeconomy

Laws of the Nervous System.

The Effects of Custom are the Effects of a Continuance of the System in the State, or of some new Law or Action depending entirely on Custom. These Effects when indeed are called Habit. I shall consider these as affecting 1st Sensibility & 2nd Irritability

1st Sensibility. We shall remark 1st That all Sensations are more or less acute as they have been continued for a longer or shorter time. a late ingenious French Gentleman found Means to distinguish Gems from Other Stones ~~in~~ by their shining in the dark which he did by

Laws of the Nervous System

confining himself for some hours in the Dark before he viewed them. — from hence we learn y^t our Sensa:tions are no Measure of the State of things around us. ~~opinion~~ this is exemplified by the Sensations of Heat & Cold differing according to the Degree of Heat in our Bodies. this in my Opinion furnishes the strongest Argument for the frigorific as well as the Calorific particles. the different Sensations of Heat & Cold Altho' but different Degrees of the same Quality, derive

as both Heat & Cold produce the same direct Sensation but different Reflex.

Laws of the nervous System.

further to illustrate to us the Arbitrary Connection between Impressions & Sensation. 1st 2nd Agreeable & Disagreable Sensations often arise from the same Impression as in the Case of Light. But this will often depend upon the State of our Bodies, so that the Impressions may in One sense be said to be relative. But there are Other Impressions which are Absolute. it is of great Importance to distinguish these two kind of Impressions. Heat & Cold are marked by the Body according to its own Sensations. thus all Heat

Laws of the Nervous System.

becomes Uneasy beyond 62, & all Cold excites uneasy Sensations that is below 32°. Absolutely speaking, But the Sensibility of the System may be so Altered as to render these degrees of Heat & Cold relatively painful. — thus a Man who has long been used to 80° of Heat feels the Sensation of Cold if the Heat falls suddenly to 70°: much more than he does who lives in a Climate where the Cold sometimes falls suddenly from 60° to 50° — hence we see the

{as viz: in being colder

" by assume a virtue if y: have it not

" y: Monster Custom, Who all sense doth eat

" of Habits Evil, is angel yet in this

Refrain tonight

" & that shall lend a kind of easiness

" to the next Abstinence, the next more easy

" for use can almost change y Stamp of nature

" & master even the Devil, or throw him out

" with wonderous potency. —

Shakespeare's Hamlet

Laws of the Nerv. System

Fallacy of Dr. Winterringham's Observations on Epidemic Diseases who supposes that Hippocr: Doctrines will hold good in Britain altho its Climate differs so much from y: of Greece: 3d Impressions become insensible according to their Repetition. — Thus some Impressions wch are at first painful after a while become pleasant as in the case of Tobacco, — Spirituous Liquors — Odours &c. this admits of great Application in Morals as well as Medicine. — Brandy becomes necessary if

(ci) this is a wise Law in Nature
& serves to defend us from many
things: y: would Otherwise injur-

we have been long used to it on
purpose to keep up a Tension in y^e
Nerves wch a want of which is atten=
=ded wth uneasiness. The longer we
use Brandy the more we require of
it to keep up this Tension. This
leads me to speak of y^e Operation
of Medicines. Vomits & Purges lose
their Force by being often repeated &c.
4th Sensations arising from Comparison
are more or less acute as they have
been repeated. Thus a Limendrag
=ger is able from being so long

used to handle Cloaths to tell the moment he puts his Finger on a piece ~~[illegible]~~ at once its Degree of Fineness. ~~[illegible]~~ — this Law belongs rather to Physi=cue than Custom.

5. any two Sensations by Finger==ing ~~[illegible]~~ together are ever after connected. hence arises the Association of Ideas. this Association doth al==ways depend upon Repetition but upon the Relation of things also, and on this last kind of Association depends the most useful ~~kind~~ species of memory. — Artificial memory depends on the first kind of Association.

6th Repetition not only renews two Ideas, but a succession of them, and establishes an Order in them. This is exemplified in a Boys repeating certain words he dont understand.

7th Repetition associates Impressions & Actions. This is nothing else but the former Law. The Impressions here act as a stimulus, & excite to the actions. Thus the voiding of Urine depends upon its stimulating the Bladder, but we can discharge it at times by renewing the Impression without the stimulus, as in going to Bed even in those Cases where we have made

water but an hour before.

8.r ~~For~~ the Renewal of Ideas is however much limited. we ~~are~~ only renew Ideas y have been acquired by Hearing & Seeing, & these can be re=newed only by certain signs which have a power of exciting reflex sensations & thus producing pleasure or pain. Thus a person who sees a Cup from which he took a vomit after feels a nausea & sometimes vomits from it.

I shall go on to mention the laws of Habit which belong to Action or Irritability.

The 1.st is that the Repetition of

Laws of the Nervous System.

Actions has great Influence upon the Tension of our Muscles. Thus a Man who has long been used to carry a weight is not able to leap to any considerable Distance without some Load in his Hands.

2nd a Repetition of Actions gives us a greater Facility in them. The most difficult Actions become easy by Repetition: it generally attends those Actions which depend on the stimulus which arises from an increased Irritability in ye moving Parts. This does not contradict ye Law we mentioned under the Head of Sensibility. - we often see Sensibility diminished & yet Irritability increased. They do not however observe any regular Laws,

Laws of the New: System.

& it is hard to tell when they mutually take place.

3d: Actions frequently repeated not only become more easy but Spontaneous & arise without the ~~[illegible]~~ sensations or volition w: formerly attended them. Respiration was at first a voluntary action, but in Consequence of frequent exercise becomes involuntary & goes forward in Life. in this Case Irritability increases while Sensibility is diminished.

— But is there not here an Effect without a Cause? — viz: Irritability ~~[illegible]~~ or action without sensation or volition. No. — there is always a Cause in these Cases, i e a stimulus or Impression affecting

Laws of the Nerv: System.

the Lungs. when this Ner: I think we ought to use the word Spontaneous, from our Theories of the Nerv: Oeconomy. — the Action in Respiration is therefore entirely Mechanical. here no Consciousness ever attends it. I do not suppose this Function was Originally Mechanical — we know y: Sensations & volition are Obliterated by Habit, and as this is y: case we cannot tell w: Actions were Mech: and w: were Voluntary as the transition generally happens in the State of Infancy. Even the Heart its self may have been Originally under the Command of the Will. We certainly exercise a power over it in many Cases as in several

Laws of the Nervous System.

of the Passions particularly in Anger. — The Motions of the pupil I believe were originally voluntary; Instinct & habitual being obscured or lost by the frequent stimulus of Light upon it.

4: Repetition gives Force to Muscular Contraction. If Muscles are exercised too violently & suddenly it gives Lassitude & Debility, but if gradually exercised & not too much violence they become strong. You have all heard of the story of the Man who by lifting a Calf every day was at last able to lift it when it grew to an Ox. — Exercise serves to apply nutrition, ~~Nutritious~~, & the more they Muscles are

are exercised the more nutrition they derive. frequent Exercise may likewise give a more excited state, or more Density & Elasticity to the Nervous Other.

5th: Repetition regulates & determines the Degree of Muscular Contraction. the Rope: Dancers & Tumblers acquire their Agility entirely by Habit. the Degree of velocity in Actions is determined by Habit. the Duration of Contraction is likewise determined by Habit. we can't keep certain Muscles in a contracted state Above a certain time. I cannot hold my Breath Above $\frac{1}{20}$ of a Minute without feeling pain, but Divers

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& Trumpeters can retain their Breath for 2 minutes without feeling the least uneasiness w: is entirely owing to Habit. Lastly the degree of Tension in Muscles is regulated by Habit. These Laws ably to internal as well as external Actions.

6th Repetition associates motions. as for Example. the motions of the two Eyes. the Actions of the Hands & Feet often becoming mechanically associated merely in Consequence of Habit. 'tis wonderful to see how uniformly these Associations take place in human life. — No more than two Impressions & Actions may be associated together, but

Law of the Nerv: System.

they always succeed one another in a regular Order, as in the Case of repeating certain words committed to Memory. — this regular succession of Impressions or Actions may be interrupted by a sudden Fright or any Thing of the kind, but he who is Able to keep up his Train of Thinking or Acting in spite of sudden Emergencies is said to be possessed of Presence of Mind. this Law greatly influences periodical Motions. thus about 9 Clock every Morning I think of coming to the College to listen to you without hearing the Clock strike or the Bell ring. you have all heard of the famous Strafordshire

Laws of the Nerv: System

Idiot recorded by Dr Willis who had long been in a Habit of repeating after Clock the time of day, ~~&c~~ incorrectly. When the Clock stopped he continued regularly to ~~&c~~ tell the hours.
How shall we explain all this? - Why our Animi Oeconomy is necessarily subjected to periodical Revolutions from the state of the heavenly Bodies & its own particular Nature. Thus if I am roused from sleep for a few Morn: at a certain hour, I soon acquire a Habit of waking precisely at that hour. Our Bodies are in a constant Flux. Fluids are perpetually flying off from it, hence arise regular times

Laws of the new: System

of Respiration & Excretion, & of sleeping & waking. these are called Natural Periods & occur either daily - weekly or Annually. But these causes are not always simple & uniform. we are subject to many Habits which observe no exact period, as the falling of flesh or Eating, wh: have their Regularity often interrupted by Exercise - over Eating & the like. where shall we look for the Causes of these periodical Habits? - why in the nervous system only. here we find all those Diseases which are periodical are more or less hereditary. to conclude I add that our

System is made of periodical Habits, & hence the Reason why Artificial Cures are so easily induced.

This finishes the Consideration of the Laws of Custom & Habit. it is a subject of great Importance in Physic, but more especially so in the Preservation of Health. hence Celsus so wisely cautions us Lib: "the power & Influence of all Habits, which lays us Open to many occasional Causes of Diseases. I know a Lady who from being confined for a few weeks to a dark Room for an inflamed Eye has not been Able to bear the Light of the Sun for some Years.

Laws of the Ner: System.

I might easily illustrate the ill: con:
:sequence of Habit over Irritability as
well as Sensibility. Celsus even goes
so far as to recommend Leeches at
times to guard ag: the Effects of Habits.
But there are some Habits w: we should
endeavour to acquire as those which
tend to diminish the Sensibility of the
System especially w: Regard to Cold,
but the Acquisition not only of this but
of all other Habits sh: be gradual. In
upon this Acc: could it be possible
even w: suffer Children to taste Ani:
:mal Food till they were 15 or 16
years old as it acts as a Stimulus, In

Laws of the new: System

this tends to wear out the System.
in a word Habits sh: be avoided by
healthy Persons, but they become
absolutely necessary in weakly Persons.
it was only by Habit - ie by living by
Weight & Measure y. Lewis Cornaro
prolonged his Life so long.

I shall now go to mention those
Causes, Circumstances & Conditions
wch: influence the nervous System in
Sickness & Health. I shall therefore
1st: speak of those Causes Circumstances
& Conditions wch: influence the System in
general, &
2nd: upon those Causes, Circumstances

& Conditions which influence the Ner:
:vous System as divided in the manner
before mentioned.

I: The State of the Whole System will
depend upon Mobility & Inertia i e
when the Causes affect Sensibility &
Irritability, ~~as~~ or act upon the Other
of our Nerves. The Mobility of ye System
will depend upon the Mobility of the
Other which may be Affected by a vari:
:ety of Causes as (a) ~~upon~~ 134 the State
of the Original Stamina. hence we
find different persons who live upon
the same Aliment in Quality and
Quantity have different Stamina

Conditions of the Nerv: System

& from this a different state of Mobility in the nervous system. the difference of Temperament & Sexes may depend upon this Cause. I said before that the Otter of Bodies was different according to the Aggregation of these Bodies.

now our Nerves from their original Conformation may be softer than they Sh: be, hence the Density of the Otter they contain may be lessened. the Elasticity of the Otter may also be diminished or encreased which will give Inertia or Mobility.

(b) the Otter of our Nerves may be affected by the powers of Heat & Cold. — we shall enquire in w: the manner

Conditions of the Nervous System

they operate hereafter. it is certain they both act on the Other of all Other Bodies. Animal Life we know depends upon a certain uniform degree of Heat. — may we even dare excite Life even in the Case of Incubation till the generating power of Heat in the Animal is established. if Life then depends upon the motion of this Other we are sure Heat may give more or less mobility to it. Heat then presume gives mobility, & Cold Inertia. Infer this from their analogous operation on the Air. Heat we know gives Elasticity, & diminishes Density, while Cold gives Density, but not Elasticity

in proportion. Cold I know acts as a stimulus, but we before limited that many bodies might act as stimulants & sedatives. But why is not the Body heated in proportion to the external heat applied? The heat of the Body is uniformly at 98°: nor is it increased by a heat of the Air that rises up to 120°: Dr Lee found by a number of Exp^ts that the heat of Drogs was always below the Temperature of ~~their bodies~~ water or the atmosphere. The solution of this Problem is very difficult! nor does the heat of the Body fall in proportion to external

Conditions of the Nerv: System

Cold. The generation of Heat ~~&c~~ we shall say hereafter depends upon the Oscillations of our Nervous Ether wch cannot be affected so as to produce more or less Heat by Heat or Cold. — an Obvious Analogy borrowed from Electricity may serve to illustrate this Hypothesis. Sulphur is an Electric Body while hard, but no Longer does it become soft than it loses its Heat & then transmits the Electric Fluid. all Heat Above 62° by encreasing Elasticity gives Mobility. all Cold below 62° gives Density to the Ether & hence induces Inertia. this is confirmed by the different Temperament of people

in warm & cold Climates.

(c) the Mobility of the Other may be affected by certain ~~[illegible]~~ Appli=cations such as Sedatives & Narcotics, which act on the Sensibility & Irritability of the whole System from w: Sinfer y: it acts on the Other & not on the solid part of our Nerves. I before hinted that Sedatives act by abstracting Other from our Nerves. but Sedatives are of various kinds. some of them may act more immediately upon the mobility of the Other in consequence of mixture, as Acids & all corrosive substances w: abstract from Dr Smith's Thesis. I much doubt whether these

Conditions of the Nerv: System

are any substances w: produce an
excitement of & Other.

2:nd I come now to take notice of
the different states of the nervous system.
They will depend (a) upon the different
proportions of the nervous Other to &
simple solids. hence arises the Difference
of Temperament in different Ages. the
medullary substance of the nerves is
subject to Changes. this is evident 1:st
from the difference of solidity in the
system in Infancy & Old Age. 2:nd from
their being extended in Length during
their Growth. 3:d we know that

Conditions of the Nerv: System

the Tension of the ~~Simples~~ Nerves depends upon the Ball and they have with the simple solids. now we know the simple solids are encreasing in Density & solidity, from whence it follows that the Nervous Fibres must keep pace wth them in their Growth. from all this it follows 1st: the Nerves & their Other are suffering Changes thro every stage of Life, in Mobility - Elasticity & Density. from this we explain the Reason why the Memory changes so much. in Infancy the Nervous Other has great Rarity but little Elasticity. & hence has

Conditions of the Nerv: System

Small Oscillations, in Manhood & Elasticity & Density are in their perfect state. in Old Age they are diminished & hence the memory fails.

Let us now explain in w^h manner the Mobility of the System is affected by this Ballance between the vis Nervea & the Limple solids being destroyed. it will depend 1st upon & weight appended 2nd upon the Contractility of the Limple solids. the weight & Contractility of the solids are always only means & from w^h we infer the power of the vis Nervea must encrease also. how

Conditions of the Nerv: System

these do not always agree in proportion
w: must give a Difference of Mobility
to the Nervous System. at a certain period
in Life they both come to a Ballance. when
the Body ceases to grow, the vis Nerve a
continues to encrease in Density &
Force. But we know there are many
Causes w: induce Rigidity in the Solids
insomuch that they overballance
the vis Nerva as in Old Age. this Bal-
lance we have been talking on may be
affected by all those Causes w: influence
Tension.

(b) the state of the vis Nerva maybe
affected by the Force of distending Fluids.

Conditions of the New: System.

- The Arteries are always distended w: Blood
w: not only gives a Tension to the
Fibres of the Arteries but to Muscular
Fibres in General. now the greater or
less Infancy of the Blood will influence the state of
Tension in the ~~Blood~~ Nerves. this Influx
will depend upon the Force of the Heart,
which during Infancy & Childhood is
superior to the Resistance of the Solids,
but this superior Force is constantly
decreasing till it comes in to an equi:
-ect Ballance w: the rest of the System
at which time the Growth of the Body
ceases. in Old Age the Force of the
Heart is inferior to the Resistance of

the solids from whence arise a different state of irritability in the nervous system.

II. We shall now proceed to speak of the Conditions of the several different parts of the nervous system, & 1: we shall speak of the Sensorium w: we shall consider as the vis Animalis from its Functions continuing during sleep & waking. These Alternate One Another very regularly every 24 hours, & are common to the whole Animal Species. the common Explanation of this is, y: the nervous Fluid is secreted in the Brain w: is dissipated during the day by the vis Animalis, and renewed Again every Night. But to this

Conditions of the Nervous System.

we Object that this Fluid is often expended much faster than it could be secreted. Dr: Fraser have insists much upon the Glandular structure of the Brain & hence concludes that some Fluid must be secreted there. — this I will not deny, but I hope we shall shew hereafter another Use for the Glandular structure & secretion w: occurs in the Brain, & that it cannot possibly be designed as the Medium of Sensation. for w: we said formerly the Other is too subtile to admit of such a secretion, nor do we ever find any Receptacles y: appear capable of containing such a subtile Matter in the Brain. But I add, that the Phenomena of the System in general,

and especially of Sleeping & Waking are
by no means reconcilable to an Alter-
nate Expansion or Repletion of the
Nervous power. Its Inactivity may
depend on many Other Causes than
an Expansion of it such as want of Tei-
- too much Rigidity in the Solids &c.
- the vis Insita remains so long in
a Muscle that we cannot reconcile
it with an Expansion of it. Besides
we See the Ether returned to the Brain
to communicate Impression & not
expended. I grant the vis Insita shows
a weakness by Exercise, but this
arises from a Diminution of the
its excited state, & not from its

11

Conditions of the nerv: System

being exausted w: we prove from our being capable of exciting it when most languid by Exercise.

Let us now attend to the Phenomena of Sleep. here indeed marks of Exaustion appear, but we find stimuli capable of banishing a Disposition to Sleep. These stimuli cannot communicate Motion to our nerves as we said before, because we find mechan: Impulses such as sound are capable of keeping it off. we have a practise of pricking writhes to extort Confessions from y: in this Country, by which means we have kept them Awake Several hours

now in these Cases there could be no Re=
=pletion. Besides if Blushing was unavoi=
=dable in Consequence of Exaustion
why is not Waking the Consequence
of Repletion? - for we find it is not,
- we are all capable of blushing at
any time in certain Circumstances of
Darkness - Silence &c. all the other
functions when full, excite a stimulus
to discharge themselves, but we see
nothing of this kind in the Nervous Ether.
- for waking return no only in Consequence
of habit or stimuli applied to ye Body.
we often see Instances of people who
can sleep 18 out of the 24 hours.
— how shall we acc^n: for y^e Return

(a) we ought first to define Sleep: it is a Cessation of the Animal Function

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of sleeping & waking at periodical hours?
- this they do, let ever such great thin=
-king or Exercise have preceded. Surely
therefore no regular Exaustion can take
place in these Cases. Has periodical
Habits depend on an Association of
Ideas ~~Exact~~ or an Absence of simili
& not ~~on~~ an Exaustion of the Nervous
Other.

But again we see some Animals
sleep the whole winter - here the Tem=
-perature of the air only can ~~act~~ act on
the Other. it is absurd to suppose a
secretion going on in their Brains
during the whole winter.

Ques 4: How does sleep depend? on
an Interruption of motion either

Conditions of the new: System

on
1: on the sensorium 2.nd on the
mobility of the Other of our nerves &
3.rd Want of Impulse. — — —

I.st let us enquire into the different
states of the sensorium & its influence
sleep. here we may include three
possible Causes. 1: the sensorium may
be in such a state as not to transmit
motions 2.nd Supposing the motions con
:tinuing free in the sensorium it ever checks
the mobility of the nervous Fluid, or
3.rd on a want of Impulse on the
nerves. let us consider each of
these separately. as to the 1.st we plain
see a Loss of sensation to follow

Conditions of the nerv: System

a Compression of the Brain wherein an Interruption of motions was in=
=duced. ~~no doubt not than no lack~~ Some suppose that
a light Compression of the Brain always
takes place in natural sleep. this
~~it may~~ must be a Compression of a peculiar
nature or else it could not be remo=
=ved so suddenly upon waking. Upon
the whole I am apt to conclude Com=
=pression can have no Influence in indu=
=cing sleep. sleep may be brought on by Conges=
=tion or rumors in the Brain, but we
cannot suppose sleep is occasioned
by either of these in its nat: state.
I grant the Recumbent posture

Conditions of the Nerv: System

does contribute to bring on sleep, but not by sending more Blood to the Brain, but by taking off irritabi:lity & diminishing the action of the Muscles.

2:nd Cause. viz: the Immobility of the Nervous Fluid. now we know sleep may be brót on by such Causes as induce an Immobility in the Ottain the Nerves, such as 1:st Cold which sometimes brings on a sleep of Death. - We always find it acts by inducing sleep first, & an Insensibility of the Nervous System. the sleep of the sleeping Animals is brót on entirely

Conditions of the nerv: System

by Cold. this we infer from their being so easily revived by warmth. this Venesection tried upon a Batt with the most desirable success. Heat then must act by restoring the Mobility of the Other, & after that the Irritability of the System 2nd: Narcotics act by destroying the Mobility of the nervous system. some suppose they act on the Mass of Blood so as to thicken them, Others say they rarifie the Blood & thus cause it to compress the Brain & so induce sleep. But we have many Facts w: shew us that they act directly upon

Conditions of the nerv: System

the nerves, & yet too in proportion to the Sensibility of the part they are applied to. I infer then that they act solely by destroying the Mobility of the Nervous Fluid. in wi. manner I formerly hinted. But neither of these Causes can act in inducing natural periodical sleep. we must therefore seek for the Cause of sleep in the III: rd set of Causes viz the want of Impulse only. this appears to be the only true Cause of natural sleep. you may make a Person fall asleep at any time

III

Conditions of the Nervous System

by removing all Impressions or Stimuli from the Body and Agitation from the Mind. we often find a single Impression will bring on Sleep which must be by taking off the Attention of the Mind from every Other Impression. a hearty Meal induces Sleepiness only by occupying the Attention of the Mind or Stomach in Digestion.

— The Animal System is no Automaton but requires external Impulses to keep it in Action. the Other is always aiming at an Equilibrium, but Impulses destroy it, now when they are

(or) the waking state appears to be
a state of tridema kept up by stimuli.
Sleep appears to be the natural state of
the System to wch it is always tending.
- these stimuli are the Causes which
keep the sensorium always in an ex=
=cited state.

Conditions of the new: System

removed an Equi librium or Rest is brot on which tho it does not induce Sleep itself, yet it disposes to it. ie the Animal System requires to be constantly excited, & without Im=pressions Life would soon be extinct. there must be something always to keep the Other in an excited state in work=ing in the Brain, now when all Stimuli are removed the Brain collapses, or acquires a state of Im=mobility. it is easy now to conceive why the collapsed state of the Brain or Sleep succeeds a want of Impulse. – all this corresponds strictly with

Conditions of the Nerv: System

the manner in wh: Cold & narcotics produce artificial sleep which I imagine to be by destroying the mobility of the Otter & not by raising wh it. But a difficult Question arises here. Why does a Disposition to sleep always follow Exercise? Wh: not Exercise act as a stimulus & thus put off sleep? - this must be referred to a certain Law in our Constitution. Exercise when the Otter is in an excited state diminishes its Excitability. Thus all stimuli we know after being long applied, loose their power of exciting Motion, wh: is owing (not to the Fluid of the Nerves being exausted) but to its Excitability

Conditions of the Nerv: System

being destroyed. Now all Fevers whether of Body or Mind act in my same manner. This in my Opinion solves the Difficulty we proposed. What does waking depend on? 1: on the Circulation of the blood in the Brain, & a moderate Degree of Tension always keeping the Other in a excited state. This is the Reason why an encreased Action of the Heart, or cold Feet prevent sleep by determining too much blood to the Brain. There is another Cause of sleep 4th w: we did not mention viz: Heat. This when encreased beyond 82: acts as a soporific

(as the Excitement in this Case is so high as to resist Impressions.

either by taking off Tension, and lessening the generating power of heat in the Body, or by acting on the Surface of the Body only & thus by deriving Blood from the Brain. Let us now enquire into the different Degrees of Excitement in the Other. The highest Degree of Excitement is in Maniacs. hence their Prodigious Strength, & their preternatural of Cold. this is the most opposite Degree of Excitement to Sleep. the 2nd Degree is y: w: occurs in the Ordinary state of waking. this Degree may be subdivided Several times according to the bigor or Debility Gaiety, or

Conditions of the Nervous System

or Melancholly wh: Persons feel when awake. a 3d Degree is the state of Sleep. this also is diffrent in Degree. thus those who dream have some of their Animal Functions perfect. this then is still a Degree of Excitement. there is a constant Energy from the Sensorium in the waking state into all the Nerves. now in Dreams part of the Brain may remain unexcited, & those Animal Functions wh: we see may proceed from that part of the Brain from whence their Nerves are derived nothing collapsed. all those Actings were

Conditions of the Nervous System

mit during sleep never fatigue now:
is owing to their not being attended
w: sensation or volition. this is
the Reason why the Heart is he
never tired w: the beating. a 4th degree is
Syncope.
a 5th is Death. Syncope depends on
a withdrawing of the exciting powers
as the Action of the Heart & Arteries
on the Brain. this we prove from
being prevented by keeping the
Body in a recumbent posture
Death depends on a Collapsion of
the Brain while the rest of the
System remains unhurt. this

is evident in that Death is brought on by Fear or Joy when in an Extreme. I think we might bring all the other Causes of Death to the same principle. I shall now mention the Several exciting & collapsing Causes of the Brain. The 1st exciting Cause is Heat. This we prove from the Sleeping Animals being colder in Winter than in Summer. 2nd Cause is the Action of the Heart. 3: The Exercise of all the Vital & Natural Functions. 4th: The Tension of the different parts of the System Defum=
=ding

ca) this is somewhat doubtful?

Conditions of the New: System

either on the solids or fluids. this is evident from the remarkable Effects w: the Passion of Love one part has when rendered tuneably a full function as the seminal vesicles.

a 5: Cause is, all the sources of Sensation I mean direct sensations

a 6: Cause is Reflex sensations or ch there w: are attended th w: pleasure or pain.

a 7: Cause may be a certain Condition of the Brain altho' we cannot pretend to explain it.

a 8: exciting Cause is Sleep. I said before that waking is a state of violence, kept up by stimuli. now sleep puts the System into a more

(a) Upon this subject see Dr. Gambius
§ 523. & 524

Conditions of the Nerv: System

excitable State, & restores the Ex=
=citability of the Other. Let us now
enquire into these Causes viz. take off
Excitability & bring on sleep.
the 1st is Cold. the 2 the weakned Action
of the Heart 3rd: the weakned Action of
the vital & Animal Functions.
4th: every thing y takes off Tension.
5th: the Absence of ~~Lues~~ Sensations not established
necessarily by Habit, for the Absence
of these excite the Brain.
6th ~~Sedative~~ ~~Ex~~ direct Sensations.
7th Sedative Impressions.
8th ~~direct~~ same Sensations y are reflex ?
9th Exercise. —
10 Compressions of the Brain. (a)

Conditions of the Nerv: System.

We come now to speak of the different states of the Nerves as involoped in their particular membranes. they are liable to the Conditions of being more or less fit to propagate motion. we know of no Causes that can influence these but Com=
=pression from Tumors or other Causes.
— Compression may vary considerably & thus produce different Effects as in the numbness w: arises from compressing a nerve, and in a total Compression.

We go on to speak of the dif=
ferent states of the Sentient Extremities
— these are greatly varied, but depend more upon the Apparatus contrived for receiving Impressions than

Conditions of the Nerv: System

upon the different state of y^e Nerves, — But the Nerves are more or less sensible, as depending on 1 upon Habit — 2nd: upon the state of Tension in Muscles from distending Fluids. an over=Tension we know increases Sensibility as in the Case of an Inflamation of the Eye. I will not pretend to say a want of Tension diminishes Sensibility.

3rd: Upon the different states of Energy in the Sensorium. When this Energy is very strong it diminishes Sensibility & lessens the Force of Impressions as in the Case of Maniacs.

4th: Upon the Mobility of the Nervous Fluid w^ch: we know differs in Temperaments

Y

Conditions of the nerv: System

ages & sexes, & may be varied likewise considerably by Poisons as in the Hydrophobia. we know of no stimulants that act directly upon the Sensorium, the only stimulants that act upon or excite the Sensorium are Sedatives such as wine & Opium.

Let us now enquire into the Conditions of the moving Fibres. their greater or lesser Irritability will depend first upon their Organization by wch: I dont understand any difference in the ultimate Fibres of these Muscles, but a greater Irritability of them. this we see in all those Muscles wch: are moved involuntarily, & this is occasioned by their being formed sooner than the Organs

Conditions of the Nerv: System

of the Natural Functions. the vital Organs retaining their Irritability after Death while the Other Organs loose their motion depends entirely upon the different Circumstances of Heat & Flexibility. the vital Muscles are moreover less connected th: cellular texture & consequently their Actions will continue more free after Death.

2:nd upon Repetition w:ch always encreases Irritability w:ch may serve still further to Acc:r for the Heart retaining its Irritability longer than any Other Muscles after Death.

3:rd upon the Muscles being more or less exposed to various stimuli which give a greater or lesser Excitement to the Other.

Conditions of the new: System

4th: upon their greater or less Tension
— when the Tension is increased too
much it excites the Sensorium.
depend upon 1st
this Tension may the Ballance between the
Sensorium & the moving Extremities
as we said before in explaining the difference
of Mobility in different Ages. 2nd: upon
the Ballance between different Muscles
especially those wch are Antagonists.
— hence we see the Reason why an
Atonia follows the want of usual Stimulus as in
the Case of Dram-drinking — lifting
weights &c wch act by bringing on Tension
& an Ballance between the Muscles.
5th: upon the Mobility of the Nervous
Fluid, hence we often (tho' not always)
find it proportioned to Sensibility.
6th: upon the Tension of the Arteries

Conditions of the Nerv: System

ch w: have no thing + to act against them
but the Blood. Their Tension therefore
will depend 1st upon the Quantity of
Blood in the Body - 2nd upon the diffi
culty of its Distribution - 3rd upon the greater or
less Resistance of the veins, 4th upon the
Force of the Heart 5th upon the Resis=
=tance of the Arteries of themselves.

Tension therefore varies in the
Arteries in different stages of Life; as
we explained at some length formerly.
6th Upon the pressure of the surrounding
Atmosphere, 7th upon the Changes of Heat
& Cold. 8th upon the Determination of
the Blood to the Surface of the Body.
from w: has been said concerning

Conditions of the Nerv: System

The different states of the Arteries we may readily see the Cause of a Plethora w: depends upon a laxity of the Arterial System w: gives way to the Accumulation of Blood. When this is the Case the Irritability of the System is increased & hence arises the Frequency of Haemorrhages in plethoric Persons.

I go on to speak of the Changes of the Alimentary Canal & 1st of the Stomach the Tension of wch depends 1st upon the state of Energy in the Sensorium 2nd: upon the state of the Extending powers 3rd: upon ~~[illegible]~~ Stimulus

Conditions of the Nerv: System

powers applied to it. 1st a great degree of energy from the sensorium is necessary to the stomach bo y general changes in the nervous system have a power of influencing its tension.

2d: It is surprizing to see w: different states of tens: in it is capable off from aliment taken in. the blood wch: it contains likewise tends to influence its tension considerably as it is more or less in quantity.

3d: Its tension is much varied from impressions made on it as a sentient & irritable organ by the great

Conditions of the Nerv: System

Variety in Food - Medicine - & Other things acid entally taken in. upon y: whole the stomach is subject to the greatest Changes in its state of Tension of any part of the Body except the Pericardium, & has the most extensive Connection w: the rest of the System. w: has been said of the stomach will apply to all the Intestines.

But again the Muscular Fibres of y: Bronchia are capable of great variety in their Tension from Changes in the Air & other Causes. in a word, every

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hollow ~~Vessel~~ Vessel in the System is liable to have its state of Tension varied by some of the Causes we have mentioned, such as the Glands - Lymphatics &c. But these cannot be the subject of our Inquiries here. I must leave them to your own Ingenuity. -

We come now to treat of the much talked of Sympathy. a Term y^t is often used with Ambiguity!

The nervous System is a continued mass of matter by w^h means it is adapted to communicate motion

of Sympathy

to all its different parts. this is w.h has been called Sympathy, & has been resolved into some inexplicable Connection between one part & another. Whenever enquire into the Cause of Sympathies we shall find they evidently depend upon a Communication of motion. I observe then that Sympathy has been distinguished into General & particular. by the first I mean those Communications of motion w.ch affect the whole System. - thus Epilepsy is supposed to excite general Sympathy from the degree of Stimulus w.ch brings it on, & not

of Sympathy

from a general Relation let
the part impressed & the whole say
— thus the Sight or Touch of a person put in
indues Paleness, not from any
Connection between the parts affec:
:ted but from a Communication establish:
in the Brain. in all Cases of this
kind I think the Term Sympathy is
improper, as the Facts we have menti:
:oned all depend on nothing but a Commu:
:nication of Motion. But when we see
Motion excited in One part Only pretty
uniformly by the same Impression
we call this particular Sympathy.
— thus the Sider of ~~the~~ a Pile very

Yawning from Lumbago &c there
wch arises from Imitation, Such as
Yawning from seeing another
Person yawn. &c

of Sympathy

uniformly excites an uneasy sensation in the Faith, & cold feet in some Constitutions may generally induce a Colic. But may not all particular Sympathies be reduced to the general Sympathy? I believe there are few of those Sympathies enumerated by Dr Whyt but w: may be reduced to this Head. 2: (a) we reject all those ~~Sym~~ Motions w: are the Consequence of Habit & Association from particular Sympathy as many of them are Arbitrary & may be laid aside at pleasure. But again I reject all those Motions from Sympathy w: succeed & those

# of Sympathy

produce one another. thus we often see the Oesophagus affected wth a spasm from an original affection of the Intestines being propagated upwards without any kind of Sympathy. all the particular Sympathies may be reduced to General Sympathies & depend upon an affection of the whole nervous System, as we see some of them brot on by a variety of different causes. thus we find a Locked Jaw brot on by a wound in any Limb of the Body. Sympathy means no more than a mutual Action between the several parts of the System. wch implies & Exists itself without assigning any Cause.

# of Sympathy

Sympathy is improperly applied when we speak of the mutual action of the Brain & every other part of ye System; we had much better speak of <u>Mutual Action</u> arising from Sensation & volition. One other Cause of Sympathy has been derived from the Anastomoses of Nerves independant of the Intervention of the Sensorium, but <u>Dr Whyt</u> has fully proved y^t there is no Foundation for such Sympathies

It is evident still further when we attend to the distinct nature of our Sensations wch would not be

Sympathy

the Case if the nerves are accustomed.

2nd: It is evident from motions not being communicated Naturally to any muscle on w: th: Impressions are made.

3rd: In many Cases where we think we see a Communication of nerves, this Communication disappears when the Connection w: th: Sensorium is cut off.

4th: Communications of motion are apparent in many places without any Communication of nerves.

5th: In those Cases where the nerves do communicate we know the motion must be excited thro' y: e: brain

Sympathy

by motions being taken off from them by stronger Impressions made on the Brain. all these Argum: suf: ficiently prove that no Sympathies can depend upon the Circumstances of Nerves independant of the Action of the Brain.

all Connections of motions are attended w: Limitation - Propensity - or Volition so that I am ready to Doubt that mecha: nical Actions do not depend on Circumstances of Nerves in the Brain, but are all of them originally more or less Arbitrary. - But don't we sometimes see Connections of motions where no

of Sympathy

Consciousness, sensation — or volition do attend? this we must grant but with this Restriction that they were originally attended with sensation — & Propensity or volition — this becoming insensible is the Consequence of Habit.

But to all we have said I must add that there are Connections of motion y: do not depend upon the Intervention of the Brain. as the pain in the teeth from the Noise of a File, w: depends upon motion communicated directly thro the Bones from the Ears to y Jaws.

# of Sympathy

- even soft parts do are capable of propagating vibrations as well as bones. this is illustrated from the Case of Saw Boerhaave who is capable of distinguishing sounds by his Fingers. Inflamation is often propagated merely by the Communication of blood vessels. there is likewise a Continuity of membranes w: propagates motion, as in those pains w: are felt in the Glans Penis from a stone in the Bladder. This finishes our Lect of the nerv: System.

Circulation of the Blood

This subject has attracted the attention of Physiologists for upwards of these 100 years. in treating of it I shall 1: speak of the several Cavities in wch: the Blood is contained.

2 of the Course of the Blood.

3d: of the Powers wch: move it &

4th: some general Laws wch: regard the Circulation.

1st The several Cavities are the Heart - Arteries - Veins &c.

1st: First of the Heart. I suppose here you are all acquainted with

Circulation of the Blood.

its Anatomical Structure. I shall only Observe y^t it is a hollow Viscus consisting of 2 principal ventricles wth 2 hollow Apendages called Auricules, & that it is fixt to the Arteries & Veins. these Auricles & ventricles consist of Muscular Fibres which run in various Directions. they are dilatable & contractable to such a Degree as entirely to destroy their Cavity, & press out every Drop of Blood from them. 2dly let us now consider the Arteries. they are formed of different substances wch are applied to each Other in ye form

Circulation of the Blood

of Layers. they consist of 3 Coats. the external wch is of a cellular Texture — the Muscular wch is of so compact a Nature as to resemble a tendinous or ligamentous Coat. upon this Ld Dr Hunter denies its being possessed of Irritability but some later Experiments prove this Opinion to be false. within the muscular Coat is another smooth polished Coat for an Acc: of wch see Anatomical Authors.

— the Strength of the Arteries is very great wch appears from the

Circulation of the Blood

Resistance ~~they~~ are capable of over-coming. we have but few Experiments to show the relative Force of the Arteries in different Ages & Animals. Dr. Wintringham found a Force of 157 necessary to break the Aorta of a young Man. he thinks the Absolute as well as relative Force of the Arteries encreases as you recede from the Heart, but his Experiments do not ascertain that this Force is exactly proportioned to the Distance from the Heart. the

(a) I believe in general they are nearly the same tho' they admit of great variety.

of the Circulation of the Blood

Specific Gravity of the Arteries we know encreases as we recede from the Heart. The thickness of the Arteries always diminishes in proportion to their Area, but then their Density encreases & with this Density their Force likewise. The Form of the Arteries when distended with Fluids is always circular. they are in general Cylindrical & not Conical as was formerly supposed. this we prove from the Branches of Arteries being always larger than the Artery from whence they came, or exactly of the same size.

Circulation of the Blood

The Course of the Arteries is seldom in a strait Line, but almost always in a flexuous or winding Form especially in those parts where they are sending off frequent Ramifications. all Branches go off from Arteries at acute Angles. we know of none that go off at Obtuse Angles. upon this whole much Pains has been laid upon this Subject than has been useful or proper.

The Terminations of the Arteries are of 3 kinds. 1st into veins by the Reflection of the Arteries 2nd into Cavities into which they pour red Blood from whence it is again absorbed by Veins as in the

Circulation of the Blood.

Corpora Cavernosa Penis &c. 3d: into serous Arteries or Arteria seminalis de Generis i.e: vessels which do not convey Globules. These serous Arteries terminate in serous veins or in secretory vessels or in Open air: this as in the Abdomen &c. into which I believe the fluid Matter found there is exhaled in the form of vapour. The Arteries have hundred lay and this, but I imagine the: no kind of Propriety.

The next Cavity 4 contains Blood are the Veins. have they muscular Coats? – I think an obvious layer of muscles may be distinguished

Circulation of the Blood

near the Heart a considerable Distance below the venous Sinuses. Yet some more Experiments are made on Irritability - I think we may infer a priori that most of the veins are possessed of Muscular Coats except the very small Branches. The Density of the veins is always greater than their corresponding Arteries, & this like the Density of the Arteries encreases as you recede from the Heart. the veins according to some Anatomists are larger ye their corresponding Arteries, & are more in number, but w: distinguish

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them most from Arteries is their values. They all take their Rise 1 from red Arteries 2d from Serous Arteries & 3d from Absorbent bodies as in the Corpora Cavernosa Penis &c. Where the Blood is effused from the Arteries, & afterwards absorbed by Veins without any immediate Communication. Lymph may in some Cases be absorbed by the Veins as in the Brain where no Lymphatic bodies have ever been discovered. We find also in many Cases as in Ecchymosis. Where

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there is an Effusion of Blood, it is all absorbed in a very short time. Surely the veins must be employed chiefly for this purpose. this finishes our Ex: of the Cavities in w: the Blood is contained.

II Let us now take notice of the Course the Blood observes in the Circulation.

- let us suppose it filling the right ventricle of the Heart. from this it is propelled into the Pulm: Artery from wh: it is absorbed by the pulmonary veins & carried into the left Auricle & ventricle, from whence it

Circulation of the Blood

is propelled by the Contraction of the Heart into the Aorta which distributes it to every part of the Body from whence it is returned by veins into the Vena Cava & right ventricle where we first found it.

We prove this to be the Course of the Blood 1. from Hemorrhages or transfusions which supply all parts of the Body alike of Blood, 2.nd from the situation - Structure & Functions of the Valves of the Heart wh. admit of the Blood's passage only in One

Circulation of the Blood

way. 3d: from Ligatures which cause the veins to swell below them, & when very tight cause the Arteries to swell above them. 4th: from the structure of the valves of the veins wch: admit the Blood only in One way. 5th: from the Continuation of Arteries & veins being demonstrated by Injections & Microscopes. You all know that this hd: of the Circulation applies only to Adults, the Blood circulates in a different manner in the Foetus as we shall say hereafter.

Circulation of the Blood

The motion of the two ventricles of the Heart is synchronous as appears from a number of Experiments not-withstanding the contrary has been asserted by Dr Nicholls & Others.

III - I shall now enquire into those powers by wch the Blood is moved. — the 1st of these is obviously the Heart wch some have supposed to be the only One. its power consists in its Muscular Contraction. But wt is it yt excites this muscular Action? Why either a bis nervea or a Stimulus applied to the Heart itself! the Stimuli

Circulation of the Blood

applied directly to the Heart are of two kinds 1 Distention or 2 acrid Substances these are again divided into Mechanical & Chemical: no One has yet proved that Mechanical Stimuli are applied to the Heart, nor can I think there is any thing like a Chemical Stimulus applied to the Heart. for the Blood we know contains nothing acrid in it, & suppo=sing it did the Heart by Length of time would loose its Sensibility to it. I therefore imagine that Distention from the venous Blood only acts as a Stimulus on the Heart.

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There is likewise a considerable Influx of the vis nervea into the Heart in common w: all muscles, & upon this Influx the Stimulus of Distention depends. This is sufficiently proved from the Effects of Passions which we know are capable of encreasing the Actions of the Heart. this you may remember gave Rise to our Conjecture of the Hearts being a Voluntary Muscle. What is the Force w: the Heart contracts? – did the Circulation of the Blood depend alone on this, the Question would

Circulation of the Blood

be of some Consequence, but this we know is not the Case. I would therefore reject all the solutions that have been given to this Proposition by the Physiologists & Mathematitians. - we find them almost all differ in their Calculations. most of them have exalted it too high. in a word the Data on wch they found their Calculi are not to be admitted. Another Question occurs here & that is wth wch velocity does the Blood move from the left Ventricle ~~Auricle~~ to the Aorta? - this might be determined could we tally:

exact Area of the Aorta, with the
size of the ventricle. ~~would give~~
~~a balance to~~ But no Physiologists
have yet agreed in their Amounts of
this. in some men it may be greater
than in others. So that I think each
of these two Problems are equally
undetermined. on d does the Alter=
=nate Contraction & Dilatation of the
Heart depend? - not on the Influx
of Arterious Blood, nor yet upon a
Influence of the nerves of the Heart. the
Only Cause appears to be the Influx
of the Venous Blood w: is Alternately
applied & removed, there is a peu=
=liar

(a) The Arguments Agst the prodigious Force of these Resistances may be seen in the Notes of last year upon the same subject.

Circulation of the Blood

Structure of the Muscles of the Heart
w: disposes it to Alternate Con-
tractions & Dilation. by the Heart

The Resistance to be overcome are
1 Elasticity of the Arteries
2 the Pressure of the Atmosphere
3 Quantity of the Blood to be moved.
4 Enlargement of the Arteries as they
moved from the Heart.
5: Flexures & Angles of the Arteries.
6: the Effects of Anastomosis. (as
7: the Friction of the Blood upon the Ar-
teries w: is supposed to be the most
considerable Resistance. but the
Resistance arising from the Actions of

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Fluids on Solids is so inconsiderable as not to deserve mentioning.

8: The viscidity of the Blood. but this has been unjustly accused. all viscidity is obviated by the heat of ye Body. — the component parts of the Blood are in a diffused state, & upon this its permanent Fluidity depends. thus have I enumerated all the Resistances the Heart has to overcome. but they are by no means so great as has been supposed, nor can they be subjected to any regular Calculation. they do however retard & resist the motion

(a) such as Dr: Nicholls - Dr Hunter
& Dr: Haller.

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of the Heart & little, & that to such a Degree that I think we must call in some Other power to aid: for the Force & velocity of the Blood besides the Action of the Heart. this power then is the Action of the Arteries.

1st Physiologists have Objected to this because they have not been able to discover Muscular Fibres in the Arteries, but later Observations have shown them to us tho in a more compact & apparently Cartilaginous state in all the Arteries. I think

(a) Mr. Bassheur now a stud: in
this University. —

Circulation of the Blood

by Reasoning a priori we might infer that the Arteries are possessed of Irritability, from the Difficulty of accounting for the Circulation of the Blood without supposing it. But their Muscular Fibres are proved beyond Doubt by some late Experiments by an ingenuous German Gentleman in an Inaugural Dissertation "De Arteriarum & venarum vi Irritabili" — I formerly adduced many other Arguments drawn from the Diseases of the Heart & Arteries, but these are of less Consequence, since the

Circulation of the Blood

Experiments aforesaid have come to Our hands. we have many confir=mations of the Irritability of the Cuticles from their Diseases such as Inflam=mations topical Fevers & Pelsies & Gangrenes, but these will come in better hereafter. It still remains a Question what additional powers are employed in the Circulation of the Blood? - my Predecessor Dr Whyt has wrote much on ye Oscilla=tory Motion of the smaller Cuticles. for my part I have Difficulties

Circulation of the Blood.

in understanding as well as Admit-
-ting this Doctrine, but w: rather
chuse to Attribute the Motion of the
Blood in the Small Arteries to the
Irritability we have been Speaking
off. we have Reason to believe that this
Irritability increases as we recede from
the Heart. There may be Other powers w:ch
assist in keeping the Blood Moving
Capillary Arteries Analagous to those
powers w:ch promote the Circulation of
Sap in Plants. how far the Action
of Our Nerves may act I will not

(a) We find repeated shocks of Electricity promotes & quickens the Growth of Plants.

Circulation of the Blood

presumed to determine [a]. I see upon the whole no necessity for calling in the Os=cillatory power of Dr Wright. Heat can have no Effect in accelerating the Circula=tion in the small vessels, for we have no Proofs of its either generating or encreasing in the Capillary Arteries. Some have called in Intestine Motion, but this never can exist in the Circumstances wch attend the Blood's Motion in these small vessels.

Let us now enquire into those powers wch propell the Blood in the veins. These are 1 all the powers

Circulation of the blood

we have been speaking of. But these ~~Only~~ Alone are not sufficient. 2:d Dr Cullen has proved that irritability is not peculiar to the venous sinus only but, to several veins which he examined as the vena cava descendens - Jugulars & one or two more. But he could not find it in the Arteries & smaller veins. nor do I think the small veins are possessed of the least irritability. 3:d Another power is the action of incumbent muscles - this acts considerably in propelling the blood in the small vessels or rather chiefly, for I cannot

ceive of any Other Auxiliary power

4ly The Alternate Action of the Diaphragm in Respiration contributes to propel the Blood thro' the Liver where it is most apt to stagnate. we shall therefore proceed to speak of Respiration & its Action in propelling the Blood thro' the Lungs.

# of Respiration.

I suppose you are all acquainted w: properties of the Air — such as its Elasticity — Density — Gravity &c. — I likewise take it for granted that you are equally well acquainted w: the anatomical structure of the Lungs.

I shall therefore proceed to explain Respiration. we shall enquire into the following Circumstances.

1. by w: Organs Respiration is performd

2 w: is the Effect of these Alternate Actions of the Thorax on the Blood.?

3 Why these Motions are Alternate?

Respiration

Q. W^h Changes the Air taken in undergoes?

A: By W^h Power is Respiration carried on? — We must to understand this consider the Lungs in the light of a Bladder W^ch may be alternately filled & emptied of Air at pleasure. The Lungs are enlarged by the Thorax in Inspiration during W^ch time the Air rushes into them. The Thorax is enlarged in all Directions in Breathing by the Action of the Diaphragm and the Intercostal Muscles by the first vertically, & by the last horizontally.

2

Respiration

2d: W: are the Effects of these Alter:
:nate Dilatations & Contractions of the
Lungs on the motion of the Blood?
— To quicken its passage thro the
Lungs.
3d: Why are they Alternate? from an
uneasy Sensation which the Lungs
feel after Inspiration & Expiration.
— Inspiration is a violent State from
the Exertion of Muscular parts, & upon
this Acc: Expiration very naturally
follows it. There is Another Use or
necessity for Respiration ~~is~~ which
leads us to enquire in to

Respiration

1st the Changes wch the Air undergoes in Breathing? This was supposed formerly to lose its Elasticity by being taken into the Lungs, but some late Experiments show us yt the Elas=ticity of the Air is rather increased than diminished. There are many other Opinions of the Changes of yt Air in the Lungs wch do not deserve our Notice. The present established Opi=nion is that there are Vapours exhaled from the Lungs analogous to that wch rises from many Plants in yt Vessel & from Liquors in Fermentation.

Of Respiration

these vapours are called Mephitic Air.

It is universally a Poison to Animal Life. There is no other way of rendering it inert but Diffusing it with common Atmospheric Air. Respiration then seems to be provided as an Antidote to this vapour, common Air seems to dissolve this Air, & is capable of being saturated w: it in such a manner as to serve the Lungs only for a certain time in a limited Quantity.

Effects of the Circulation

We come now to speak of the Effects of the Circulation of the Blood. these are 1: to distribute Heat to all parts of the Body.

2: to Distribute Humidity to the Body.

3: to give Tension to the System. it is well known 1: it stretches 2: Arteries, & may add every Muscular Fibre too.

4: to afford secreted Liquors, and among Others the Nutritious Juice. this leads us to speak of what we proposed formerly as the Chemical part of our System, or to the Doctrine of

Digestion

Animal Fluids. Some begin w: the Blood as Dr: Haller, others begin with the Matters out of w: the Fluids are formed. the latter of these Methods appears to me to be the best, & I shall therefore adopt it. in considering these subjects many Actions occur such as the Mandication Deglutition &c which have no imediate Connection w: the nature of Animal Fluids so y: I shall take no notice of them, but proceed imediately to consider the nature of Animal Nourishment of which the Animal solids consist. All nutritious Matters consist originally ~~upon~~ of Vegitables. even those Animals on w: ch we live are Nourished by Vegitables, or by

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July 13

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Esq. 1